NOTE

This Microfiche meets the quality requirements of the American National Standard for Microfiche of Documents (ANSI PH5.9-1975). However, because of imperfections in the document from which it was made, it contains images that are illegible or difficult to read. The source document for this microfiche is the best copy that could be obtained prior to filming.

CIS

[illegible]
Washington, D.C.

S. Hrg. 99-1073

HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA CONSERVATION ACT OF 1986

HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS, RESERVED
WATER AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-NINTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

S. 1803

A BILL TO DESIGNATE CERTAIN LANDS IN AND NEAR THE HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AS ADDITIONS TO THE HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS, OREGON, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

LA GRANDE, OR, AUGUST 19, 1986

Printed for the use of the
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
69-864 WASHINGTON : 1987

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Congressional Sales Office
U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402

S311-34

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

JAMES A. McCLURE, Idaho, *Chairman*

MARK O. HATFIELD, Oregon
LOWELL P. WEICKER, Jr., Connecticut
PETE V. DOMENICI, New Mexico
MALCOLM WALLOP, Wyoming
JOHN W. WARNER, Virginia
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, Alaska
DON NICKLES, Oklahoma
CHIC HECHT, Nevada
DANIEL J. EVANS, Washington

J. BENNETT JOHNSTON, Louisiana
DALE BUMPERS, Arkansas
WENDELL H. FORD, Kentucky
HOWARD M. METZENBAUM, Ohio
JOHN MELCHER, Montana
BILL BRADLEY, New Jersey
JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico
JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV, West Virginia

Frank M. Cushing, *Staff Director*
Gary G. Ellsworth, *Chief Counsel*
D. Michael Harvey, *Chief Counsel for the Minority*

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Reserved Water and Resource Conservation

MALCOLM WALLOP, Wyoming, *Chairman*

LOWELL P. WEICKER, Jr., Connecticut
CHIC HECHT, Nevada
MARK O. HATFIELD, Oregon
PETE V. DOMENICI, New Mexico
FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, Alaska

DALE BUMPERS, Arkansas
JOHN MELCHER, Montana
BILL BRADLEY, New Jersey
JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico

James A. McClure and J. Bennett Johnston are Ex Officio Members of the Subcommittee

Tony Bevinetto, *Professional Staff Member*

CONTENTS

Page
S. 1803 2

STATEMENTS

Allen, Lorene, Grant County Judge 15
Apple, Bruce 140
Arietta, Ellen 278
Armon, Dallas 293
Atiyeh, Hon. Victor, Governor, State of Oregon 7
Bailey, Ric, Wallowa Resource Council 118
Baker, James A., Kinsey Guardians of Blue River, OR 267
Baker, John A.K 229
Barry, Lois 260
Barry, Peter 98
Bates, Roberta 232
Beaubier, Robert J., forester, Sequoia Forest Industries 118
Bensel, Lorelei 137
Binford, John 227
Birkmaier, Mack 132
Bohannon, Michael 140
Borson, Nathan 215
Bortz, Andy 278
Botts, Cassandra 312
Brogoitti, Robert A., Oregon House of Representatives 10
Brown, Will H 85
Burkitt, Harold H 258
Carper, Brian, president, People First 308
Carter, Truman C., Powder River Sportsmen 216
Case, Jerry, president, Union County Wheat Growers League 144
Childers, Leroy G., Wallowa County Judge 19
Cimon, Shelley 215
Clapp, Rob 254
Clark, Dick, Dick Clark Logging 305
Coe, Priscilla 256
Colkitt, Steve 273
Combes, Patricia R., Wallowa Lake Tourist Committee 248
Crissman, Gene, president, Crisstad Enterprises 197
Crow, Marion 141
Daugherty, Mike 97
Daugherty, Stanlynn, Eastern Oregon Outfitters and Guides Association 125
Dick, Louie, on behalf of Randy Williams 54
Donnell, Stephen W 232
Durning, Jean C., Northwest Regional director, the Wilderness Society 239
Eades, Wayne W., president, Eastern Oregon Mining Association, Inc 292
Ellingson, Robert P., III, vice president and general manager, Ellingson Lumber Co 101
Felkel, Frank 321
Fleser, Mary 274
Fletcher, Eric, president, Oregon AFL–CIO 49
Foglio, Gary 316
French, Joe 321
French, Raymond, Oregon House of Representatives 12
Fredsall, Russ, director, resources, Western Wood Products Association 189
Fuhriman, Steven R 271

Page
Garnett, Robert J 133
Garten, Roy, board chairman, Enterprise School District No. 21 39
George, Rick, Oregon Trout 153
Goss, Pat 325
Griffiths, David E., Jr 100
Gunnels, Herman 305
Hafer, Ervin, president, Hafer Logging 307
Hall, George L 331
Hall, Ken, chairman, Board of Trustees, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation 55
Hammer, Donna 222
Hatfield, Hon. Mark O., a U.S. Senator from the State of Oregon 1
Hawkins, Byron, president, Union County Farm Bureau 142
Henderson, James E 272
Hentze, Dick, Powder River Sportsmen Club of Baker, OR 126
Higgens, Michael J 99
Hixson, Bill, M&H Rigging 346
Hoemann, Bart H., president, Peerless Trailer Division, Lear Siegler 345
Holman, Ken 323
Honeyman, Bruce 246
Horngren, Scott, Western Forest Industries Association 197
Houck, Michael C., Portland Audubon Society 123
Howard, John, mayor, city of Imbler, OR 38
Hughes, Loren W., Oregon Division, Izaak Walton League of America 212
Jackson, Robert H 228
Jacob, Nathan H., office manager, Eagle Truck & Machine Co 339
Jellum, Kathy, Hospitality Industry 324
Johnson, Roland W., Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce 249
Johnson, Sid 314
Kapuscinski, Jack 245
Kriley, Barbara 282
Leonard, Pat 335
Lester, Marie C., Union County Commissioner 19
Light, David M 158
Lillebo, Tim, Oregon Natural Resources Council 145
Litzenberger, Dale, Friends of the White Water 158
Lockhart, Mike, president, Anthony Lakes, Corp 226
Lovell, Merlin 313
Lucas, Mitch 246
Lukens, Doug, president, Bank of Wallowa County 95
Madden, Morley, Oregon State Snowmobile Association 326
Markham, Craig P 219
Mason, Bob, La Grande—Union County Chamber of Commerce 94
Mattes, James A., Grande Ronde Hospital Administrator 335
McCarthy, Patrick 266
McClaran, Jack K., Wallowa County Stock Growers Association, Oregon Cattlemen's Association, and the National Cattlemen's Association 127
McKellar, Robert H., president, Oregon Forest Products Transportation Association 316
McPhail, Donald A., Northeast Oregon Vacationlands 225
Miller, Mike, executive vice president, Associated Oregon Loggers, Inc 283
Misener, Earle C., Union County Judge 31
Mitchell, Carroll, chairman, Baker County Republican Central Committee 93
Moen, Patricia Honeycutt, Oregon Division, Izaak Walton League of America, Inc 261
Monteith, James, executive director, Oregon Natural Resources Council 84
Morehead, Paul B 312
Moulton, Ronald K 324
Nelson, Michael R 339
Noland, Mid, on behalf of Bill Fisher, mayor, city of Wallowa, OR 37
Norman, Julie 255
Oberteuffer, W.H 218
O'Donnell, James F., executive vice president, Northwest Pine Association 170
Oester, Paul, Society of American Foresters 353
Packwood, Hon. Bob, a U.S. Senator from the State of Oregon 6
Partin, Tom, logging manager, Malheur Lumber Co 349
Peacock, Douglas 224
Peacock, Robert, Peacock Lumber Co 212

Page
Peinecke, Ralph, vice president, Timberland Resource, Boise Cascade Corp....... 117
Periman, Bob L., superintendent, Union School District No. 5.......... 44
Perren, Gerald J., Oregon Tourism Council.......... 247
Platt, John C., president, Oregon Wildlife Federation.......... 86
Ralston, Gene.......... 217
Reed, John, regional manager, Northeast Oregon Region, Boise Cascade Corp.. 107
Reed, Ralph K., superintendent, Elgin School District No. 23.......... 43
Reynolds, Joyce M.......... 348
Roberts, Agnes.......... 134
Romtredt, Eric.......... 143
Rossotto, Michael, Northwest Office, Friends of the Earth.......... 221
Rozelle, Mike.......... 306
Ruben, J. Herman, chairman, Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee.......... 83
Rubin, Laurel.......... 162
Rust, Jerry.......... 93
Sands, Don, Union County Chamber of Commerce.......... 331
Shankel, Mark.......... 303
Shepherd, Terry, Clarke's Sheet Metal, Inc.......... 258
Sowers, Anthony E.......... 267
Stahl, Andy, forester, National Wildlife Federation.......... 136
Stennett, Dale, logging manager, John Day Logging Co.......... 351
Theabolt, Theresa.......... 334
Thompson, Larry.......... 308
Thorne, Mike, Oregon State Senate.......... 12
Timms, Gene, Oregon State Senate.......... 15
Trindle, Ed, Second District, Oregon Cattlemen's Association.......... 238
Trudel, Terry.......... 275
Van Blaricom, E.H., chairman, Wallowa County Republican Central Committee.......... 136
Venn, George.......... 279
Vojta, Janneli.......... 276
Waldrop, Don, president, A&B Enterprises.......... 345
Walker, Jim.......... 272
Wallender, Fred.......... 239
White, Loren W., Snake River District, Log Scaling Society.......... 281
Whittemore, Steve, director, Northeast Oregon Vacationland, Inc.......... 224
Williams, Dickson.......... 257
Wiltse, Charles W., Jr., superintendent, Baker School District.......... 48
Wortman, Pat.......... 132
Yockim, Ronald, Oregon Pine Co. and Prairie Wood Products.......... 352
Young, Jack, Iron Triangle Logging and Road Building.......... 351

HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA CONSERVATION ACT OF 1986

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1986

U.S. Senate, Subcommittee on Public Lands, Reserved Water and Resource Conservation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,

La Grande, OR.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to notice, at the Eastern Oregon State College, La Grande, OR, Hon. Mark O. Hatfield presiding.

Present: Senators Hatfield and Packwood.

Also present: Tony Bevinetto, professional staff member; and Thomas B. Williams, professional staff member for the minority.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. MARK O. HATFIELD, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

Senator Hatfield. Ladies and gentlemen, this is going to be an exercise today of logistics, as well as a gathering of information. We are going to have to have the cooperation of everyone.

I wonder if some of you very youthful looking people would remember the admonition of your parents when you were young and offer your seats to some of the older people who are standing here. It would be a very courteous thing as well as a very nice gesture. We have some older people who possibly would need seats.

Good morning once again and I am pleased to be here in La Grande to hear the views on S. 1803 introduced by my colleague, Senator Packwood, to designate certain lands in and near Hells Canyon Recreation Area as additional lands to the Hells Canyon Wilderness in Oregon.

I will place a copy of the bill in the record.

Senator Packwood's bill would designate approximately 290,000 acres of additional wilderness in Oregon, with a portion being in the Hells Canyon Recreation Area.

The bill also would establish an annual maximum 200,000 cubic feet of timber harvested from lands within the Oregon portion of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and, finally, would extend the designation of the Snake River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System down to Asotin, Washington, from the present location.

[The text of S. 1803 follows:]

99TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1803

To designate certain lands in and near the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area as additions to the Hells Canyon Wilderness, Oregon, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 29 (legislative day, OCTOBER 28), 1985

Mr. PACKWOOD introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

---

A BILL

To designate certain lands in and near the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area as additions to the Hells Canyon Wilderness, Oregon, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SHORT TITLE

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the "Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Conservation Act of 1985".

DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL WILDERNESS

SEC. 2. In furtherance with the purposes of subsection (b) of the first section of the Public Law 94–199, relating to the establishment of the Hells Canyon National Recreation

Area, and the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890), certain lands depicted on the maps entitled "Proposed Oregon Hells Canyon Wilderness Additions, October 1985", which comprise approximately two hundred and ninety nine thousand two hundred and eighty acres, shall be included as part of the Hells Canyon Wilderness. The wilderness area designated by this section shall be managed by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior, as appropriate.

LIMIT ON TIMBER HARVEST

SEC. 3. Subsection (f) of section 8 of Public Law 94-199 is amended by—

(1) striking out "Such activities" and inserting in lieu thereof "(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), such activities"; and

(2) inserting at the end thereof the following:

"(2)(A) Effective for the first full fiscal year commencing after the date of enactment of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Conservation Act of 1985, the maximum annual timber harvest from publicly owned lands within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area in Oregon shall be 200,000 cubic feet. All types of wood harvest and disposal in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area shall be applied to this total.

"(B) The maximum total established in subparagraph (A) shall not be—

"(i) a part of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest wood sale program; and

"(ii) prorated or averaged out over a time period in excess of one year.

"(C) Any wood removal activity within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area shall be in furtherance of the objectives set forth in section 7 of this Act.".

DESIGNATION OF RECREATION RIVER

SEC. 4. Subsection (a) of section 3 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Public Law 90-542; 16 U.S.C. 1274(a)) is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following:

"(54) SNAKE, IDAHO AND OREGON.—The segment of the Snake River, Oregon, Washington and Idaho, from the north boundary of section 1, Township 5 North, Range 47 East, Willamette Meridian, downstream to the confluence of the Grande Ronde River is designated as a scenic river and shall be managed by the Secretary of the Interior. The segment of the Snake River, Washington and Idaho, from the confluence of the Grande Ronde River to the town of Asotin, Washington, is designated as a recreational river and shall be managed by the Secretary of the Interior.".

MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTION

SEC. 5. As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior, as appropriate, shall file a map and legal description of the expanded Hells Canyon Wilderness and Snake recreation river with the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of the Senate and Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives and such description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: *Provided however,* That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such description and map may be made.

○

Senator **Hatfield**. Let me turn to the mechanics of the hearing. Out of respect for all of the witnesses who are here today to testify—we have a list of 192 such witnesses—I ask all the witnesses to summarize their written statements in their oral testimony and the entire testimony will be placed in the record.

We have a system of lights here to help the witnesses. The lights are different colors. Green means go, yellow means one minute remaining and red means to finish your statement.

If any of you need a witness list, we will be happy to provide it.

After the hearing a printed copy of this hearing will be made available upon request. There are labels out in the lobby that you write your name and address on, and we will attempt to provide a copy of the testimony that was given here today.

I look forward to hearing your testimony. If you would like to provide additional testimony or if others who are not signed up on the list wish to add their testimony, you may send that testimony to my office in Washington, D.C. The hearing record will remain open for two weeks after this date to receive any additional written testimony.

I would like to turn now to the author of the bill and ask Senator Packwood if he has any opening remarks he wishes to make.

This is the Subcommittee on Public Lands, Reserved Water and Resource Conservation of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, which has officially convened this hearing.

And we are happy to have Senator Packwood join as co-chair of this hearing today. Even though he is not a Member of the Committee, it is one of the courtesies we extend to our colleagues, and I am very happy to have my colleague and my dear friend, Senator Packwood, here today to help chair this hearing.

STATEMENT OF HON. BOB PACKWOOD, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF OREGON

Senator **Packwood**. Mark, thank you.

As many people know, we have arcane rules in the Senate which prohibit both Mark and I serving on the same Committee, and therefore in order for this to be an official Committee meeting, a member of the committee had to chair it, and Mark most willingly indicated he would. I am deeply appreciative that it will be an official hearing with an official record.

The issue of the Hells Canyon, timber harvest and further wilderness is not a new issue to anybody in this room. It is an issue which has been with us long before the initial Hells Canyou Recreation Act was passed.

All I can say is that I know before the day is out we will have heard many, many passionate statements on both sides of this issue. Both Mark and I look forward to hearing everything you have to say, in brief.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you, Senator Packwood.

Now I am happy to call on the Governor of the State of Oregon as our first witness.

Governor, we are not going to put the lights to you, but we asume that you will generally comply with the Committee's request here today. Governor Victor Atiyeh.

STATEMENT OF HON. VICTOR ATIYEH, GOVERNOR, STATE OF OREGON

Governor Atiyeh. Senator Hatfield and Senator Packwood, I will generally comply.

I come before you today not only as Governor of Oregan, but also as a native Oregonian who loves the natural wonders of this State.

Having said that, I still must vigorously oppose Senate Bill 1803, the Hells Canyon Eagle Cap Wilderness Bill.

I do support the protection of the resources God has given us so generously.

I have argued long and often that we must protect the Columbia Gorge, both as a vital waterway and as one of the most awe-inspiring wonders in our nation.

I support outdoor recreation. As a avid fly fisherman, I know of nothing to compare with the thrill of casting for native trout in one of Oregon's remote rivers.

And, yes, I support preserving certain unique areas of wilderness. I was an early and ardent proponent of legislation to preserve more than 3,000 acres along the Deschutes River as a wild and scenic resource.

And yet I cannot support Senate Bill 1803.

This Bill would add almost 300,000 acres to the Hells Canyon and Eagle Cap Wilderness areas of Wallowa County.

It's not as if we weren't already protecting this area.

Wallowa County already has more than 400,000 acres of federal wilderness within its boundaries. In fact, more than a fifth of the land in this county is devoted to wilderness or restricted recreation. Now, that is 20 percent of all the wilderness land in the State of Oregon.

The people of Wallowa County, the Grange members, the ranchers, the loggers and others whose livelihoods depend on timber or grazing are saying "Enough is enough." And I have to agree.

This bill has severe economic consequences for Wallowa County, a county already hard hit by the same economic problems our entire State has been struggling to overcome.

Nearly one-quarter of Wallowa County's workers earn their living from timber or agriculture.

To these people, taking still more land out of economic productivity just does not make sense.

I remind you of some of the things this bill would do. It would nearly double the designated wilderness area in Wallowa County. It would reduce the annual timber harvest in the Hells Canyon area to just one million board feet a year. It would close most of the area to motor vehicles, including ranchers' trucks. It could increase the potential for fire hazards in a county which, as we all know, is at this very moment being ravaged by some of the worst fires in our history.

Each of these things has serious consequences for the economic health of Wallowa County and, of course, the State of Oregon.

Let me outline just a few of the consequences of reducing the timber harvest.

Earlier testimony stated that the bill's annual timber harvest limit of one million board feet would amount to a reduction of about six million board feet a year.

In fact, the reduction and the economic loss is likely to be much greater.

The Oregon Forestry Department tells me that this bill would actually reduce the legal, allowable timber harvest each year by at least 10 million board feet, maybe more.

In human terms that is enough timber to keep 106 people working, almost half the county's current wood products industry labor force. It is enough timber to generate two-and-a-half million dollars in local wages. It is enough timber to pump almost two million dollars a year into the local business economy.

Now, Wallowa County people cannot afford to lose that kind of money. Their county government and schools cannot afford to lose the $118,000 a year they would receive in Forest Service receipts from these timber sales. And Oregon cannot afford to lose the productivity of these hard working people.

But this bill does not merely cover timber land. It also includes large range areas where local ranchers graze their livestock.

Grazing would still be allowed under this bill but because of the way wilderness uses are restricted, it would be like allowing Model T's to race in the Indy 500.

For instance, wilderness is all but off limits to motor vehicles. That means ranchers could no longer use pickups to haul fencing, stock watering tanks and salt to the range. They would have to use horses instead.

Now, that might seem like a romantic image, cowboys on horseback, straight out of the Old West.

But this is the new west and a return to the ways of the past is impractical, inefficient and uneconomic.

Those ranchers who follow their cattle onto the range in summer cow camps would have to pack in their families and supplies by horse. They could no longer use chainsaws to cut firewood for their camps. And one entire ranch, the Cherry Creek spread, could have its vehicle access completely cut off.

All of these things would drive up the cost of ranching.

Oregon's ranchers, like their farm and ranch cousins across the nation, are already struggling. This is an added burden they simply cannot afford.

If it becomes too costly to graze on these public lands, where will the ranchers turn? Will they borrow money to keep their businesses alive or will they sell their stock and go the tragic way of so many other American farm families?

Either way, Oregonians will suffer. In fact, reduced public lands grazing does even greater economic damage to an area than reductions in the timber harvest.

If you curtail grazing and logging, you increase the risk of fire. As you know, our State has been burning up this summer. Hundreds of thousands of acres of Eastern Oregon timber and range lands have burned. Before the summer is over, it may turn out to be the worst fire season in Oregon history.

It will be months before we know just how serious the damage has been, but I have flown over and into these fires, and I can tell you I have never seen such awful devastation. These fires may very well leave much of Wallowa County unfit to log and graze for years to come.

This is no time to consider removing even more land from economic use.

Supporters of the Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill say it would bring more tourist dollars into the area. They boast of the jobs that would create.

To some extent that may be true. But I believe the tourism argument is grossly exaggerated, for wilderness will not be accessible to most Oregonians.

You know that as Governor, I have been a strong advocate of increased tourism, but this increase, versus the economic impact falls far short of equity, because the question is will the new jobs make up for the jobs that will be lost?

How do you tell a laid-off logger to find a job washing dishes? How do you convince a ranch hand to come in doors and work behind a sales counter? How do you retrain whole families whose lives are tied to the stewardship of the land?

Any issue involving the use of public lands is ultimately a balancing act. You balance the needs and demands of one group with the needs and demands of another. You balance the desire to protect the natural environment with the desire to maintain a healthy, productive economic environment. You balance the concerns of the nation with the concerns of individual human beings.

Wallowa County has achieved a good balance. It is a county rich in natural splendor. It is a county beginning to dig its way out of the economic slump of the last several years.

This bill would upset that balance. It would do serious harm to the economy of the region and the State. It would deprive too many people of their livelihoods.

In nearly eight years as Governor I have worked hard to maintain that balance of economic and environmental interest. And I urge you to do the same. You do that by rejecting this bill in its entirety.

Let me add, Chairmen, Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, I have just responded to another measure, mandated by Congress and the Forest Service, and that is the Forest Planning Act.

And if you look at that Act by itself, it is planning to reduce the timber harvest in this county and in Union County, and as a matter of fact, in the Wallowa-Whitman forest.

People involved in this economic part of our State feel besieged at every turn. Everywhere they look somebody wants to reduce the timber harvest or reduce access to grazing lands.

Senator HATFIELD. Excuse me, Governor, just a moment.

Is there an officer at that door? Can we get an officer at that door to take care of keeping that door closed?

Please proceed, Governor.

Governor ATIYEH. Thank you, Senator.

I believe, Senator, you need to look at what's going on now in other parts of Federal government. See how they in turn are reducing the economic viability of the State of Oregon, put that in context of this bill which requires more wilderness, remembering that

Oregon itself now has 2,400,000 acres of wilderness by federal action.

It isn't as if we don't have wilderness. It isn't as if we are not interested in wilderness. I think it is time that we as westerners realize what we are contributing to the United States. There is no such thing as major areas of wilderness east of the Mississippi.

It's only because the Federal government owns so much of the West that someone feels that this needs to be the playground of the rest of the United States.

I believe Oregon has conscientiously and deliberately done what it can through federal legislation, and I would also add, through State legislation, to protect the wonders that we have. There are areas in which more needs to be done, but this is not one of them.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you, Governor.

Let me say, we will have to exclude everyone in this room and have a hearing without any present if we have this kind of response from either side of this issue.

This is another one of those very ancient rules of the Senate. This is an official hearing. We do not tolerate in any of our hearings any kind of audience response.

We are going to maintain those Senate rules here today. So let me caution you now, and it is my fault for not having done that to begin with, there is to be no audience response to any witness' testimony.

Governor, thank you very much.

Now I would like to invite the Honorable Robert Brogoitti, State Representative from District 58, the Honorable Ray French, State Representative from District 19, the Honorable Mike Thorne, State Senator, District 29, and the Honorable Gene Timms, State Senator, District 30, as the first panel, and, gentlemen, we are now on the light system of three minutes each, and I would urge you to observe those lights.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT A. BROGOITTI, OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Representative **Brogoitti**. I would like to welcome both of you Senators to our fair City of La Grande and I am impressed that you will take the time to listen to the public.

This allows us the opportunity to tell you face-to-face how we, as citizens, feel about your proposed legislation.

Senator Packwood, in January you scolded the region's citizens opposing wilderness and decreasing the harvest of the NRA proposed by your bill.

You stated that the study showed local citizens living next to proposed Wilderness Areas, National Parks and National Recreation Areas and other set-asides have always opposed you.

That is probably true and the study I am sure was correct.

But there is a very important follow-up question.

Why are local citizens opposed to those same set-asides?

A recent study by Doctor Fred Obermiller of Oregon State University suggested some answers. Adding wilderness, designating National Recreation Areas and changing how national forests are managed does have a significant impact on local citizens. It affects their businesses, their employment opportunities, their taxes, just about every economic part of their lives.

Senator Packwood, I believe you would get the same reaction if you proposed wilderness for 30 percent of Multnomah County, Washington County and Clackamas Counties, and I certainly do not ask you to look at that. But it just shows what the local citizen's impact is.

Senator, as you well know, Northeast Oregon is unique natural resource base. The region is beautiful with rugged mountains, isolated, combined with rich, productive farms, range and forest lands. There is a substantial acreage of poor, less productive lands, situated side by side with more productive lands. This is a consequence of terrain, soil formation and the availability of irrigation water.

One can no longer set aside less productive areas without including very productive lands with it.

I need not tell you the region has a low population density. In some cases counties such as Wallowa County have actually lost population over the years.

In most of the counties populations have increased at a very slow rate. Where land and the resources on it can be improved and managed, the population trend has displayed a more pronounced increase. This shows the region's dependence on its natural resource base.

Just like anywhere else, long term economic stability and prosperity is and will continue to be a desirable goal for people in the Northeast Oregon.

But here in Northeast Oregon the conventional growth opportunities of industrialization and diversification hold limited promise.

Our rural communities lack the physical, economic and demographic attributes to support these conventional approaches of economic prosperity.

Therefore, we must develop, protect and utilize our natural resources to provide our economic base.

Management, utilization, and conservation of our natural resources will continue to provide basic jobs and income for the region

From where you sit here in La Grande, there are six wilderness areas within 71 air miles, totaling 828,900 acres. In addition we have 374,000 acres of NRA outside wilderness in Oregon. That is sufficient and we think we have given our share.

Hells Canyon is a National Recreation Area, not a Wilderness Area. It need more access, better developed campgrounds, continued logging to promote more forage for elk, deer and domestic livestock.

In short, the key is comprehensive management of all resources. Our dependence on one resource (in this case, wilderness), to the exclusion of all others, is impossible. Each resource, whether it is timber, forage recreation, or water, must be optimized without damage or depletion of all the resources.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you. It was an excellent statement. Representative French.

STATEMENT OF RAYMOND FRENCH, OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Representative **French**. I would welcome Senator Packwood and Senator Hatfield here.

For the record, I am Representative Ray French, District 59.

I must oppose S. 1803 because of the impact this bill will have on people who live and work in Eastern Oregon. And more specifically, I am very concerned about the people who live in my legislative district.

It has been noted that the declining allowable cuts on national forests will have an adverse affect on an already lagging wood products industry in Eastern Oregon.

The communities of Eastern Oregon are working to maintain and expand their economic base, but with continued decline of a major industry, maintaining the quality of life in these rural communities becomes difficult, if not impossible.

It has been brought to my attention that the expansion of wilderness areas in Eastern Oregon will mean closure of at least one sawmill and the loss of hundreds of jobs.

Single use of our public lands will ultimately lock up our national forest for only a few people when it was the original intent to have use of these lands available for as many people as possible.

The further deterioration of the economic base in Eastern Oregon cannot be tolerated. The resulting loss of jobs and deterioration of our communities is not acceptable to the people who earn their living here and want to continue their life in Eastern Oregon.

Ghost towns are a novelty in our part of the State but we don't need any more of them.

As jobs decline in Eastern Oregon and the people are forced to leave our communities, Main Street must suffer with closing businesses and also the associated jobs they provide.

We have also been led to believe that with the exapnsion of wilderness areas several years ago, that there will not be any reason for expansion in the near future, but here we are again within a few short years, seeing the proponents of expansion.

I feel that certain wilderness areas, such as Eagle Cap, for example, are needed and should be protected, but it is also my contention that with the present usage of these areas, further expansion is neither desirable nor necessary.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF MIKE THORNE, OREGON STATE SENATE

Senator **Thorne**. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, I express my appreciation for your being here and an opportunity to make these brief observations.

For the record, I am State Senator Mike Thorne. I represent Union, Wallowa and Umatilla Counties in the Oregon legislature. I reside in Pendleton, Oregon.

I am here to express to you my opposition to the proposed additions to the Wilderness Act and I do that on two basic points.

The first point refers to the fact that about a year-and-a-half ago both of you were instrumental in bringing to a conclusion a long and exhaustive study of the question of wilderness in Eastern

Oregon, and that Act provided for additional designations as well as release of lands deemed not qualified, so that we could go on about the forest planning that's taking place in the region.

To enact additional legislation would seem to me to raise a question of credibility between those interested in wilderness and the federal government in enacting that piece of legislation.

My second concern deals with those that have been enunciated previously by our Governor, and that is the tremendous potential economic impact on this region.

For those reasons I am here to express my opposition and ask that we move ahead with other considerations.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Senator Thorne follows:]

MIKE THORNE
UMATILLA, UNION AND WALLOWA COUNTIES

REPLY TO ADDRESS INDICATED
☐ Senate Chamber
Salem, Oregon 97310
☐ Holdman Route, Box 505
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

OREGON STATE SENATE
SALEM, OREGON
97310

WILDERNESS HEARING
LaGrande, Oregon
August 19, 1986

Senator Hatfield, thank you for this opportunity to comment on the question of additional Wilderness designation.

I am State Senator Mike Thorne and represent Wallowa, Union and Umatilla Counties. I reside in Pendleton, Oregon.

I am here to express my opposition to further wilderness legislation and to compliment you for your leadership in the 1984 Wilderness Bill.

The inappropriateness of additional legislation is based on (2) major considerations. First, the 1984 act (referred to above) set forth additions that had been considered for some time and established release of land deemed not qualified. The basis for the forest plans now being drafted was thus established. To change what's been done would be costly to all concerned plus raise the question of credibility between those interested in the wilderness issue and the federal government.

My second concern has to deal with the local economic impact of additional wilderness legislation. Oregon is still struggling to regain its economic stability. Forest products, Agriculture and Tourism is our economy. Of the three, two are in serious straights.

I would encourage our attentions toward our economic recovery and away from wilderness designation.

Thank you, again, for the opportunity to make these brief observations.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you, Senator.

Senator Timms.

STATEMENT OF GENE TIMMS, OREGON STATE SENATE

Senator TIMMS. Thank you, Senator Hatfield and Senator Packwood.

My name is Gene Timms, for the record. I represent District 30 which includes a third of the State of Oregon, six federal forests, seven counties and six deriving 80 percent of their economics from federal forests.

It is a challenge to represent such an area in the State of Oregon, and I am here today because the future of my district and State is threatened.

Most of my information comes from the State Trade and Economic Committee, of which I am a member. We have studied the economics of this State. Last month it was the sunset strip or the electronic industry.

Many legislators in the State are beginning to realize that the electronic industry is not the answer to jobs in the State of Oregon. On T.V. last night, Floating Point laid-off employees, Tektronix had just laid-off employees.

The only bright spot in this State at this time is the resurgence of the timber industry.

The answer to jobs in Oregon is a better business climate, one that is built around natural resources and agriculture. A business climate and natural resource base that encourages a profit and that downstream to other products. I am for jobs in Oregon and I am therefore opposed to any more wilderness, Senate Bill 1803.

I am proud of our Governor being here today to stand in opposition to this wilderness area. The lumber industry in my district has changed dramatically. We have an efficient high tech industry, a business built on the reliance of the timber supply from a sustained yield process.

Senators, the State of Oregon is changing. We need a State that offers opportunities for our young people. Help preserve an economic base for our rural communities.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you, Senator.

Now may I invite the Honorable Lorene Allen, the Honorable LeRoy Childers, Ms. Marie Lester, the Honorable Larry Smith, the Honorable Earl Misener, and Mr. Bill Hansel, representing Umatilla, Baker, Union, Grant and Wallowa Counties, to come to the witness table.

You may proceed. We will start at this end of the table and just go down the table.

STATEMENT OF LORENE ALLEN, GRANT COUNTY JUDGE

Ms. ALLEN. Thank you, Senator Hatfield and Packwood.

I am Lorene Allen, County Judge, and I am from Grant County. I want to testify against the increase in wilderness in the Hells Canyon area.

In the process of the 1984 Wilderness Bill I testified very strongly against that. We were planning and trying to see what kind of effect this would have on our economy. What I would like to do today is tell you exactly what kind of effect it had on one school district.

However, the North Fork of the John Day Wilderness was created. It includes 121,800 acres, of which 106,787 are on the Umatilla National Forest. That portion on the Umatilla contain 900 million board feet of standing timber.

I want to tell you about the effect of that one wilderness on one school district, Long Creek.

In 1984–1985 Long Creek had 126 students enrolled. 21 of these were from the Dale area.

With the changes brought by the new Wilderness Area, that directly affected the Forest Service Operation. Long Creek lost 15 of those 21 pupils. Basic school support for Long Creek in that time dropped from $185,000 to $121,000. This drop was influenced largely by loss of pupils. As you know the formula, thereby the loss of pupils.

The loss of residents also resulted in a loss of assessed valuation. For Long Creek this snowballed.

The loss of forest receipts further cut into their budget.

As you know, Grant County also gives some forest receipts money to the schools. This was cut.

This year Long Creek went out for a levy for $97,000 to balance their $600,000 budget. That's quite a big percentage. But it failed.

It's going to be a little hard to tell Long Creek that wilderness doesn't have any affect on the local economy.

These may be small numbers to you, who deal in much bigger numbers, but to sell communities, like Long Creek, these are big numbers.

I urge you to be very congizant of the effect on local dependent communities when you allocate the use of our nautral resources.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Judge Allen follows:]

TESTIMONY ON SB 1803 HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS

HEARING AUGUST 19, 1986, LA GRANDE, OREGON

I am Lorene Allen, County Judge, Grant County. I want to testify against the increase in wilderness in the Hells Canyon area.

Prior to the 1984 Wilderness additions, I testified strongly against the adverse effect on local communities of legislation that resulted in single purpose use of our natural resources.

However, the North Fork of the John Day wilderness was created. It includes 121,800 acres, of which 106,787 are on the Umatilla National Forest. That portion on the Umatilla contains 900 million board feet of standing timber.

I want to tell you about the effect of that one wilderness on one school district: Long Creek.

In 1984-85 Long Creek had 126 students enrolled, 21 from the Dale area. With the changes brought by the new wilderness area that directly affected the Forest Service operation, Long Creek lost 15 of those 21 pupils.

Basic school support for Long Creek in that time dropped from $185,000 to $121,000. That drop was influenced largely by the loss of pupils. The loss of residents resulted in a loss of assessed valuation. The loss of forest receipts further cut into Long Creek's budget. This year Long Creek went out for a levy of $97,000 to balance their $600,000 budget. It failed.

These may be small numbers to you, who deal in millions of dollars and thousands of people. But to small communities like Long Creek changes that upset the local economy can be devastating.

I urge you to be very cognizant of the effect on local dependent communities in the allocation of our natural resources.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much, Judge.

STATEMENT OF MARIE C. LESTER, UNION COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Ms. LESTER. Senator Hatfield, Senator, I am Marie Lester, Commissioner from Union County.

Senator Hatfield, when I last appeared before you, it was to ask for your careful consideration on House Bill 1149. You made some considerations for which we thank you.

Now the amount of acres that you considered at that time to be over and above the acreage asked for in House Bill 2245 are the topic of this hearing.

May I reiterate the argument I made then as to why more wilderness cannot be acceptable?

We again need your just consideration of Senate Bill 1803.

It makes me wonder, Senator, is someone trying to reclaim the Oregon territory?

I will not belabor you with the figures that have been carefully compiled to be minutely correct, because those statistics will be made part of the record.

Please know that the County Courts of Eastern Oregon speak of one accord and in complete consensus with these statistics as we have worked with the timber industry people as they have diligently strived to make them accurate.

Economically, politically and socially we will be irreparably damaged if this wilderness issue bill is enacted.

Like you, I am an elected official representing our constituents in Union County. I, on a far more diminished plain than you, but nonetheless I reside on the home ground of where this action is to take place.

And, sir, I cannot sit idly by and watch the depletion of all of our communities to the point of becoming ghost territories. There has been no concrete evidence of why a tree needs to be wasted in order to save it.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF LEROY G. CHILDERS, WALLOWA COUNTY JUDGE

Mr. CHILDERS. Senator Hatfield and Senator Packwood, I am Leroy Childers, Wallowa County Judge, representing Wallowa County and Region I of the Association of Oregon Counties on the proposed wilderness bill.

On behalf of Wallowa County and the Association of Oregon Counties, Region I, thank you for giving me this opportunity to express opposition to Senate Bill 1803, the proposed wilderness bill.

Again, the economically depressed area of Eastern Oregon is faced with a proposal for more land to be placed in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area wilderness which reduces the timber supply from federal forest service lands which severely affects Baker, Grant, Malheur, Umatilla, Union and Wallowa Counties.

Any reduction in timber revenues to our counties reduces revenues to the schools and revenues with which to maintain our county roads.

We are presently losing students in Eastern Oregon counties because of the loss of jobs in agriculture, timber and business. The loss of students reduces State basic school support and requires more local property tax. Continued loss of forest receipts because of placing more land in wilderness and reducing the timber harvest is placing the taxpayers in a position of rejecting tax levies for support of schools, health facilities, related services and programs necessary to maintain viable communities.

It seems that the proposed Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan, along with Senate Bill 1803, will assure Eastern Oregon economic hardship.

Timber harvest and intensive timber management for commercial use on all soils suitable for timber production should be the highest priority for all concerned.

We are concerned that Senate Bill 1803 is not in agreement with the intent of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Plan as originally proposed and that it is not in accord with the Final Environmental Impact Statement of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Comprehensive Management Plan, 1982, nor does it consider financial impact on Eastern Oregon economy which is heavily dependent on timber and agriculture.

The management plan establishes an objective "of ultilization and disposal of natural resources on federally owned lands, including but not limited to, timber harvesting by selective cutting, mining, grazing and continuation of such existing uses and developments as are compatible with this Act."

The impact statement proposed three highly qualified areas for addition to the wilderness (an additional four percent), certainly not 399,000 acres.

The impact statement also called for timber management to promote stand health, vigor and diversity, and provide between five and nine million board feet annually.

The Forest Service plan included only ten percent of old growth timber to be harvested in wild and scenic river areas and big game habitate areas and none in wilderness areas.

When are we going to stop placing our county bit by bit under federal and State mangement?

We hope that you will recognize that Wallowa County is economically depressed because it is dependent almost entirely upon timber and agricultural products and that the continual reduction of timber available for harvest by the Wallowa-Whitman and Umatilla National Forest and by legislation like Senate Bill 1803 has created a situation which will force the closure of some of our lumber mills.

Why place an additional restriction on timber harvest on national forest lands by proposing more wilderness or by creating wild and scenic river restrictions on timber harvesting and recreational development?

We hope that you withdraw your support for present legislation and that you oppose future legislation that places further restrictions on agriculture and timber operations which will further contribute to our already shrinking tax base in Wallowa County.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Childers follows:]

TESTIMONY

Of

LEROY G. CHILDERS, WALLOWA COUNTY JUDGE, REPRESENTING WALLOWA COUNTY AND THE ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES - REGION I - ON PROPOSED WILDERNESS BILL

Senator Mark Hatfield and Senator Robert Packwood:

On behalf of Wallowa County and the Association of Oregon Counties, Region I, thank you for giving me this opportunity to express opposition to Senate Bill 1803 - the proposed Wilderness Bill.

Again the economically depressed area of Eastern Oregon is faced with a proposal for more land to be placed into the HCNRA wilderness which reduces the timber supply from federal Forest Service lands and which severely affects Baker, Grant, Malheur, Umatilla, Union and Wallowa Counties. Any reduction in timber revenues to our counties reduces revenues to the schools and revenue with which to maintain our county roads. We are presently losing students in eastern Oregon counties because of the loss of jobs in agriculture, timber and business. The loss of students reduces State Basic School Support and requires more local property tax. Continued loss of forest receipts because of placing more land in wilderness and reducing the timber harvest is placing the taxpayers in a position of rejecting tax levies for support of schools, health facilities and related services and programs necessary to maintain viable communities.

It seems that the proposed Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan, along with Senate Bill 1803 will assure Eastern Oregon economic hardship. Timber harvest and intensive timber management for commercial use on all soils suitable for timber production should be the highest priority for all concerned.

We would like to point out that Wallowa County has already received far more than its share of government restrictions - National Recreation Area and Wilderness! The State of Oregon has felt the loss of revenue because of reduced timber cuts.

U.S.F.S. Managed Land in Wallowa County

Umatilla (Total)	123,510	acres
Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness	66,375	
Wallowa-Whitman (Total)	995,925	
Hells Canyon NRA (Total)	441,490	
Hells Canyon NRA Wilderness	129,757	
Eagle Cap (Total)	250,907	
Eagle Cap Wilderness	217,856	
Wallowa Valley (Total)	303,528	
Wallowa Valley Wilderness	1,824	
Total National Forest	1,119,435	(55% of the County)
Total Wilderness	415,812	(37.1% of the Forest) (20.4% of the County)
HCNRA (Recreation/Timber Management)	70,000	(Approx.)
HCNRA (Recreation/No timber harvest)	241,733	
Total Forest Not Available for Timber Harvest	657,545	(58.7% of the Forest)
Total Available for Timber Harvest	461,890	(41.3% of the Forest)
Total area of Wallowa County)	2,033,920	Acres

Placing productive timber land into wilderness is not the answer to a sound economy for our region.

We petition you to withdraw the present wildnerness proposal and not support future wilderness designation in Eastern Oregon that affects our economy adversely.

LeRoy G. Childers

LeRoy G. Childers - Wallowa County Judge

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Arleigh G. Isley
Agriculture and Resource Economics

Increasing the NRA Wilderness area or reducing the allowable timber harvest within the NRA cannot possibly offset the economic loss associated with a six million board foot reduction in timber harvest.

Increases in tourism and the resulting portion of the economic activity in Wallowa County associated with the designation of additional wilderness and the NRA are difficult to measure, but certainly have not fulfilled the predictions of the most conservative environmentalist.

Enlargement of the NRA Wilderness area will restrict vehicle travel within the winderness area. Market analysis indicates there will not be a large enough increase in non-vehicular recreation to offset this loss. As a result there will be a net decrease in overall tourism.

If the objective of Senate Bill 1803 is to increase the economic activity in Wallowa County through increased tourism, other measures such as a destination resort, developed recreation activities and perhaps convention facilities will be a necessity.

If the objective of Senate Bill 1803 is to enhance Wallowa County's ecology or living environment over the long haul or for future generations, this proposal is unsound because of the present ecological status of the area involved and relatively recent man's activities. Arguments to substantiate this condition are readily available and can be furnished if requested.

In conclusion, Senate Bill 1803 will damage the state's economy and do very little for the environment. It would require an additional 250 tourists per day spending roughly $48.00 per day, 360 days a year to generate the same amount of economic activity associated with a six million board feet reduction in timber harvest. (See accompanying table).

Assumptions for Input-Output Analysis For Reduced Timber Harvest

The input-output analysis for reducing timber harvest in Wallowa County by seven million board feet was based on the following assumptions:

1. The structure of Wallowa County's economic structure has not changed substantially since Dr. Obermiller completed his study of the economy.

2. One mill will close because of uncertain future supplies of logs. This mill currently processes 25 million board feet of logs per year.

3. The eighteen million board feet of logs currently processed by the mill that will close will be shipped out of the county for processing. This activity will increase log hauling and harvesting income while decreasing wood products processing and manufacturing income.

4. There will not be a substantial increase of tourist activity because of the increase in the NRA wilderness or as a result of the reduction of allowable cut in NRA.

WALLOWA COUNTY COURT

Office of the Judge
Phone: 503-426-3586
P.O. Box E

State of Oregon

Enterprise, Oregon 97828

January 7, 1986

TO: Senator Bob Packwood

FROM: LeRoy G. Childers, Wallowa County Judge

We are concerned that SB 1803 is not in agreement with the intent of the HCNRA plan as originally proposed and that it is not in accord with the Final Environmental Impact Statement of the HCNRA Comprehensive Management Plan (1982) nor does it consider financial impact on eastern Oregon economy which is heavily dependent upon timber and agriculture.

The management plan establishes an objective "of utilization and disposal of natural resources on federally owned lands including but not limited to, timber harvesting by selective cutting, mining, grazing and continuation of such existing uses and developments as are compatible with this act."

The impact statement proposed three highly qualified areas for addition to the wilderness (an additional 4%), certainly not 399,000 acres.

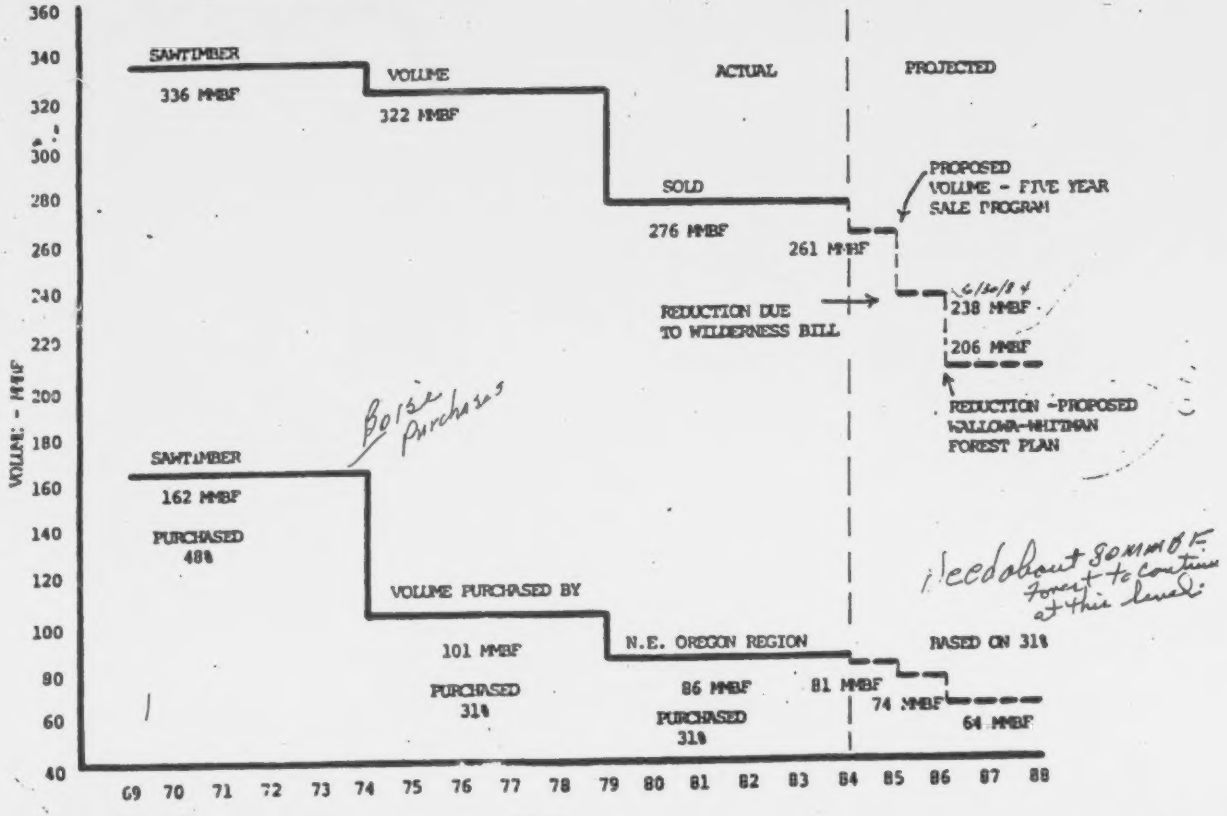
The impact statement also called for timber management to promote stand health, vigor and diversity and provide between five and nine million board feet annually.

We would like to point out that Wallowa County has already received far more than its share of government restrictions - National Recreation Area and Wilderness! The State of Oregon has felt the loss of revenue because of reduced timber cuts.

U.S.F.S. Managed Land in Wallowa County

Umatilla (Total)	123,510 acres	
Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness	66,375	
Wallowa-Whitman (Total)	995,925	
Hells Canyon NRA (Total)	441,490	
Hells Canyon NRA Wilderness	129,757	
Eagle Cap (Total)	250,907	
Eagle Cap Wilderness	217,856	
Wallowa Valley (Total)	303,528	
Wallowa Valley Wilderness	1,824	
Total National Forest	1,119,435	(55% of the County)
Total Wilderness	415,812	(37.1% of the Forest) (20.4% of the County)
HCNRA (Recreation/Timber Management)	70,000	(Approx.)
HCNRA (Recreation/No timber harvest)	241,733	
Total Forest Not Available for Timber Harvest	657,545	(58.7% of the Forest)
Total Available for Timber Harvest	461,890	(41.3% of the Forest)
Total area of Wallowa County)	2,033,920 Acres	

WALLOWA-WHITMAN AND UMATILLA NATIONAL FOREST



The Forest Service plan includes only 10% of old growth timber to be harvested in wild and scenic river area and big game habitat areas and none in wilderness areas. When are you going to stop placing our County bit by bit under federal and state management?

We hope that you recognize that Wallowa County is economically depressed because it has depended almost entirely upon timber and agricultural products and that the continual reduction of timber available for harvest by the Wallowa-Whitman and Umatilla National Forests and by Legislation such as Senate Bill 1803 has created a situation which will force the closure of some our lumber mills. Why place an additional restriction on timber harvest on national forest lands by proposing more wilderness or by creating wild and scenic river restrictions on timber harvesting and recreational development?

We hope that you withdraw your support for present legislation and that you oppose future legislation that places further restrictions on agriculture and timber operations which will further contribute to our already shrinking tax base in Wallowa County.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much, Judge. That was excellent.

Judge Misener.

STATEMENT OF EARLE C. MISENER, UNION COUNTY JUDGE

Mr. **Misener**. You can tell that LeRoy is an ex-school teacher and superintendent of schools by his proficiency at reading. I don't have that same talent.

I wish to thank you, Senator Hatfield and Senator Packwood, for allowing us to testify today. I'm not going to read my statement because you have it before you.

I do wish to reiterate that just two years ago, if I am not mistaken, we were told that we hoped that this would be the end of our wilderness. That statement was made, or words to that effect. We hoped that that is the attitude that you folks would take.

You can tell by the testimony from the counties prior to my discussing here, that we are not in favor of any more wilderness because we are in an economic pinch out here.

The only real action we have is what's happening out at the airport right now and the fire fighters. That's the biggest activity we have had around here in I don't know how long. And that's like a war to me. You fight a war and then after you win, the armistice has been signed, you depart and you go back to status quo.

In closing, I'm not going to add any more in statistics, but I would like you to know that when you look around the town, around these three counties, see the vacancies, the For Sale signs of homes, people who have left the area, and see how long some of these homes have been for sale, they have had to reduce the sale price down below the true cash as much as 25 percent in some cases.

We recently in La Grande lost a long time dry goods store, been here for, according to Marie Lester, over 50 years. I'm not dating her, but that was what she told me yesterday.

In closing, I would like to read a statement that I received yesterday in a letter from my good friend, Bob Packwood, Senator Packwood, dated the 8th of August, 1986, and he quotes, "A stable and reliable timber supply from our public lands is vital to the economic security of our communities in Oregon. You can be assured I will work towards that goal."

I hope that you folks in your deliberation on this wilderness bill in the NRA area will take this into consideration and the hardship that it will place on our communities in Northeast Oregon.

Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Misener follows:]

STATEMENT OF TESTIMONY
OF
EARLE C. MISENER
UNION COUNTY JUDGE
UNION COUNTY, OREGON

on
HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS BILL
1986 S.B. 1803

Before
SENATOR MARK O. HATFIELD

LA GRANDE OREGON
AUGUST 19, 1986

NRA WILDERNESS HEARING

MY REMARKS TODAY WILL BE LIMITED TO A VERY SMALL SPHERE OF CONCERN. THAT OF THE ECONOMY OF THE REGION, AND WHY ARE WE EVEN CONSIDERING ANY MORE WILDERNESS IN NORTHEASTERN OREGON WHEN JUST THREE (3) SHORT YEARS AGO WE WERE TOLD THAT ANY MORE WILDERNESS IN THIS REGION WOULD NOT EVEN BE CONSIDERED FOR ANOTHER TEN (10) YEARS FROM THAT DATE.

WE IN NORTHEASTERN OREGON ARE GOING THROUGH ONE OF THE WORST FIRE SEASONS IN THE PAST 60-70 YEARS, ACCORDING TO OLD-TIMERS OF THE AREA. NO DOUBT THERE WILL BE A TREMENDOUS SALVAGE JOB AFTER THE FIRES HAVE BEEN PUT OUT AND WE HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO EVALUATE THE DAMAGE, AND WHAT SHOULD BE DONE WITH THE DAMAGED TIMBER.

AT THE SAME TIME, ADDITIONAL TIMBER LAND IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR WILDERNESS, THE REGION IS GOING THROUGH A VERY DAMAGING RECESSION IN OUR AGRICULTURE AND IN THE TIMBER INDUSTRY. MANY OF OUR VERY INDUSTRIOUS AND INTELLIGENT FARMERS OF THE AREA ARE LOSING THEIR HOLDINGS TO THE LAND INSTITUTIONS.

THESE FINANCIAL PROBLEMS HAVE IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER CAUSED A VERY HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE. ALSO AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE, YOU WILL NOTE THE LARGE NUMBER OF HOMES FOR SALE OF WHICH A SMALL NUMBER ARE SELLING. SOME HOMES HAVE BEEN ON THE MARKET FOR IN EXCESS OF 2 YEARS. IN ORDER FOR SOME HOMES TO BECOME MORE ATTRACTIVE TO POTENTIAL BUYERS THE SELLING PRICE HAS BEEN REDUCED IN EXCESS OF 25% OF TRUE CASH VALUE. RECENTLY THE OLDEST DEPARTMENT STORE IN UNION COUNTY (EXCESS OF 50 YEARS) CLOSED ITS DOORS. FOREVER.

ALL OF THIS PAINTS A PICTURE OF DOOM AND GLOOM, WHICH IS TRUE. THE ONLY REAL THRIVING ACTIVITY WE CAN SHOW IN UNION COUNTY TODAY IS THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF OUR FIRE FIGHTING ACTIVITY AT THE AIRPORT AND STAGING AREA. AND OF COURSE, THE SUPPORT SERVICES RELATED TO MAINTAINING THE SEVERAL THOUSAND FIRE FIGHTERS IN OUR REGION. THE ACTIVITY IS SOMEWHAT AKIN TO FIGHTING A WAR. AND SUPPORTING THE WAR EFFORT. MANY DOLLARS ARE EXPENDED DURING THE PERIOD OF THE WAR. AFTER THE CEASE FIRE AND ARMISTICE EVERYTHING RETURNS TO THE STATUS QUO. THE SAME WILL BE TRUE AFTER THE FIRES ARE OUT AND WINTER ARRIVES AND ALL OF THE BORATE BOMBERS HAVE GONE HOME AND THE FIRE FIGHTERS AND THEIR VARIOUS SUPPORT GROUPS HAVE ALSO DEPARTED.

WHAT MY TESTIMONY REALLY BOILS DOWN TO IS WE REALLY DON'T NEED ANY FEDERAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF MORE WILDERNESS, WE REALLY NEED STABILITY IN THE MARKET PLACE AND STABILITY IN OUR NATURAL RESOURCES. WE NEED ASSURANCE THAT OUR TIMBER RESOURCES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR LONG TERM PLANNING FOR THE INDUSTRY. THIS TYPE OF LONG TERM PLANNING SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE OUR NATIONAL FOREIGN POLICY AS IT RELATES TO UNFAIR FOREIGN COMPETITION.

IN CLOSING I WISH TO QUOTE FROM A LETTER I RECEIVED FROM MY LONGTIME FRIEND, SENATOR BOB PACKWOOD, DATED AUGUST 8, 1986. "A STABLE AND RELIABLE TIMBER SUPPLY FROM OUR PUBLIC LANDS IS VITAL TO THE ECONOMIC SECURITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES IN OREGON. YOU CAN BE ASSURED I WILL WORK TOWARD THAT GOAL."

IN LIGHT OF THIS MOST REFRESHING STATEMENT, IT IS MY HOPE AND THE HOPE OF MANY SITTING HERE TODAY, THAT YOU WILL RECONSIDER YOUR STAND OF ADDING MORE WILDERNESS TO THIS REGION AND DO AS YOUR COLLEAGUE, SENATOR MARK O. HATFIELD STATED SOME THREE YEARS AGO WHEN SEVERAL THOUSAND ACRES WERE ADDED TO THIS REGIONS WILDERNESS INVENTORY; THAT ANY MORE WILDERNESS IN THIS REGION WOULD NOT EVEN BE CONSIDERED FOR ANOTHER TEN YEARS FROM THAT DATE.

I THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY BEFORE YOUR COMMITTEE ON SUCH A CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT.

SINCERELY

EARLE C. MISENER

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you.

Is Judge Smith here or Mr. Hansel? They were to be a part at this panel.

Thank you very much. Let me invite now Mayor Noland, Mr. Almquist, Mr. Catilldja and Mayor Howard to come to the witness table.

All right. Let me move on to the next panel. I am looking for Panel 3, Mayor Noland of Wallowa, Mr. Almquist of Union, Mayor Castilldja of Joseph and Mayor Howard of Imbler. We will take those people at this time.

Let me also announce Panel 4 so that they can be ready to move to the witness table when Panel 3 has finished. Panel 4 will be Mr. McClain, Mr. Garten, Ms. Hayes, Mrs. Peacock.

Please move quickly to the table when the next panel is announced.

All right. You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF MID NOLAND, ON BEHALF OF BILL FISHER, MAYOR, CITY OF WALLOWA, OR

Mr. NOLAND. Senator Mark Hatfield, Senator Robert Packwood, thank you for allowing me to make this testimony, on behalf of Mayor Bill Fisher and the City of Wallowa.

We, the citizens of Wallowa, strenuously oppose Senator Packwood's proposed wilderness bill S.B. 1803.

Wallowa's current population of 800 has shrunk from a previous high of 965. These 800 people are caring and sharing, warm, wonderful people, not just statistics.

We care about the future of our community and the future of our county. We are shrinking and crumbling under our depressed economy. This is alarming. Sheep and cattle ranching along with raw and finished wood products are the backbone of Wallowa's income. Our wood products feed the paper in today's high technical computerized society, as well as building and remodeling the homes and businesses across this great United States of America.

I worked in and have been around Wallowa County for 20 years, from 1965 to 1985, as a logging superintendent for the J. I. Morgan Corporation. I took early retirement when Senator Hatfield's wilderness bill, which was implemented in 1984, reducing the allowable cut of timber and forcing my company to liquidate their Oregon operation.

J. I. Morgan contracted to harvest the raw timber products and delivery it to the three Boise Cascade mill yards in Union and Wallowa Counties.

My company's payroll was $398,692 in 1982; $521,538 in 1983; and $283,562 in 1984. This 1984 payroll figure indicates no new contract as we were only cleaning up the last of our 1983 quota. We pumped over a half million dollars into Wallowa's economy in 1983 and none in 1985. Mayor Fisher and the City Councilmen struggle constantly with the burden of city budget, from police system, road repairs to water sewer projects, because of the loss of timber industry dollars.

The school superintendent reported that the 1986–87 enrollment is down between 30 and 35 students from a year ago.

Students and parents report moves are being made to find employment elsewhere.

Local merchants indicate that they have experienced an 18- to 20-percent drop in sales over the past year.

A real estate salesman told me that prior to 1984 he sold a minimum of six pieces of real estate property per year. Only two house sales have been transacted in the entire two year period since 1984.

A home that was built four years ago at a cost of 40,000 was turned back to the F.H.A. mortgage company, it sold last week for $17,500.

The Wallowa County Treasurer reported tax collections to the annual period of July 1 through 30th were as follows: June 30th percent of uncollected tax in 1982 was 13.1 percent; in 1983 it was 16.7 percent; in 1984 it was 17.5 percent; and in 1985 it was 20.1. And in 1986 it was 20.4 percent.

Currently Northeast Oregon has 719,265 acres of existing wilderness. This should well serve the needs and desires of all those seeking the use of it as a national recreation area, from backpacking to fishing and boating.

Senator Packwood's proposed bill would reduce the annual timber harvest on the Wallowa-Whitman District between 13.0 and 15.0 MMBF. This is nearly the total volume used by one sawmill.

The residents of Wallowa feel very strongly that the proposal of additional wilderness violates our rights to live, support ourselves, our community and our county by robbing us of the potential timber harvest.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF JOHN HOWARD, MAYOR, CITY OF IMBLER, OR

Mr. **Howard**. The City of Imbler passed a resolution opposing any additional wilderness on the 13th day of August, 1986.

And it reads:

> Whereas the City of Imbler, Union County, Oregon, recognizes that the National Recreation Area expansion proposed by Senator Packwood's bill does not meet the needs of the citizens of this City in terms of jobs, taxes or recreational uses.
>
> Whereas the City of Imbler feels that the interest of all citizens of Northeast Oregon would be better served by withholding any expansion or additions to wilderness in the region until the impacts of such wilderness can be more accurately assessed.
>
> Now, therefore, it is hereby resolved that they City of Imbler, Union County, Oregon, call upon Senator Packwood to withdraw his proposed legislation on the National Recreation Area.

I would also like to add that our area mills have retooled themselves in the last two years to make themselves more competitive for the wood products industries.

The Hells Canyon NRA is an additional resource base for area mills. It is a resource base for future jobs, for future generations and the generation that I am in.

The Hells Canyon is a part of your heritage and the way we make our living, through timber harvest, through livestock grazing and the way we enjoy ourselves through developed recreation.

We are facing a choice of either wilderness or utilizing our renewable natural resources.

Our economy depends on renewable natural resources and I oppose additional wilderness.

I would also like to add that in Oregon probably half of our income, at least half, comes through timber, wood products, and a big portion, another big portion, is agriculture, and I honestly feel we cannot handle more wilderness.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you, Mayor. And thank you, Mr. Noland, for bringing the message from the Mayor of Wallowa.

Do I understand the Mayor of Joseph and Mr. Almquist of Union are not present for this panel?

Then we will go to Panel 4—Mr. McClain, Mr. Garten, Ms. Hayes and Ms. Peacock.

You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF ROY GARTEN, BOARD CHAIRMAN, ENTERPRISE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 21

ROY GARTEN. Thank you. I am representing the Enterprise School District Number 21 School Board, and appreciate your consideration of our concerns for future management of the Hells Canyon NRA.

Senator HATFIELD. You are Mr. McClain?

ROY GARTEN. I am Roy Garten.

Senator HATFIELD. All right. Thank you, Mr. Garten. You may continue.

ROY GARTEN. As you know, the economy of Wallowa County is at a low point for a number of reasons, most of which we as local people have no control over.

But we feel that land management allocation decisions should be made with much considerations from local people.

Therefore we have a couple of recommendations.

One: Wallowa County has enough non-developed recreation. Many areas of the current wilderness are not being utilized. If any changes are to be made in the Hells Canyon NRA we support developed recreation, access for the average person, and destination resorts. More private development is necessary to maintain a tax base that is so important for local schools and government.

Numbr two: we suport an annual harvest of at least 12 milion board feet for a number of reasons. A: to maintain a stable economy by providing jobs and industry to pay taxes. For example, the timber industry pays over $1,700,000 in property tax for the '85–'86 tax year. Approximately 75 percent of this supported county schools. B: historic cuts of 17 million board feet annually could provide at least $323,131 from timber receipts to the county. Schools would receive 25 percent, with the county road department receiving the balance. C: together the property tax and timber receipts provide about 25 percent of the local school's income per year.

School Boards across the State are struggling with financing problems and we in Wallowa County are not the exception. Dollars available for adequate education for our children are uncertain every eyar, and Senator Packwood's wilderness proposal will not help.

Recreation cannot pick up the lost revenue from the timber and cattle industry.

Therefore, we support no more set-aside acres in Wallowa County and any help you can provide to improve development recreation.

Thank you.

[Attachments to Mr. Garten's statement follow:]

TIMBER INDUSTRY

1985-86 Property Tax

Rogge Mill at Wallowa	$ 65,173.35
Sequoia at Joseph	33,191.25
Boise Cascade Mill and Timberlands	$1,630,564.00

RECEIPTS TO COUNTY FROM NRA

SPECIES	VOLUME MMBF[1]	$/MBF[2]	TOTAL DOLLARS
Ponderosa Pine	7.8	$147.03	1,146,834.00
Douglas Fir & Western Larch	5.6	17.76	99,456.00
White Fir & Spruce	3.1	13.39	41,509.00
Lodgepole Pine	.5	9.45	4,725.00
	17.0		1,292,524.00

$ to Wallowa County = 25% x 1,292,524 or $323,131.00

1. Volume based on historic cut from NRA, Species breakdown based on 1975-1984 actual sold volume from Wallowa-Whitman

2. Value from Timber Data, Eugene, Oregon

G

111 Hyland Drive
Enterprise, OR 97828

August 22, 1986

The Honorable Mark Hatfield
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hatfield:

I would appreciate your consideration of the following testimony against SB 1803 and the entering of this testimony in the record.

1. The only portion of the current National Recreation Area that deserves special protection is the Snake River Canyon proper. It is truly a spectacular area and should be classified as wilderness.

2. The area westward from the rim of the canyon to the private land on the east side of the Imnaha drainages and the Mc Graw area should be managed as NRA, as a buffer to the wilderness and to provide developed access to Hells Canyon.

3. The remaining portion of the current NRA shows extensive indications of use by man, including building sites, ranching, roads, and logging, and therefore should be managed as national forest. This includes the Lake Fork area, the upper Imnaha, Blackhorse, Grouse-Lick area, Jaynes Ridge, Buckhorn, Deadhorse Ridge, Cold Springs, and Teepee Butte area. Changing these areas to NRA allocation has caused hardships to local residents. Turning them into wilderness will create severe problems for people, similiar to our treatment of the Indians in the late 1800's.

In summary, as a trained professional land manager with a great appreciation for the beauty of our country, I cannot see where the intensity of managing the NRA during the last 80 years has damaged Hells Canyon. While standing on the west rim near Mc Graw Lookout as I did today, I could not see any damaging effects of man's activities. The game and fish populations are increasing, the managed timber stands are healthy, providing habitat for animals and products for man.

I urge you to use common sense rather than emotions when making decisions concerning the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

By copy of this letter, I am respectfully requesting Senator James Mc Clure and Senator Malcolm Wallop's support.

Sincerely,

Roy E. Garten

ROY E. GARTEN

xc: James Mc Clure
Malcolm Wallop

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you, Mr. Garten.

Is Mr. McClain or Ms. Hayes or Ms. Peacock present?

If not, Panel 5 will be next. Mr. Reed, Mr. Russ Smith, Mr. Don Curry, Mr. John Mills, Mr. Robert Periman, Mr. Chuck Wiltse, Mr. Bob Messinger and Mr. Nick Eddy and Mr. Irv Fletcher.

Will Panel 5-A, Mr. Herman Ruben, Louie Dick, Mr. Ken Hall, and Mr. Randy Williams, be ready to come to the table following this panel's testimony.

Gentleman, you may proceed.

STATEMENT OF RALPH K. REED, SUPERINTENDENT, ELGIN SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 23

Mr. REED. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, I am Ralph Reed. I am the Superintendent of Schools for the Elgin School District.

I am testifying on behalf of the Elgin School District against the proposed drastic reduction in timber harvesting and the additional proposed wilderness in buffer areas in Senate Bill 1803.

The Elgin School District is in a timber and agriculturally oriented community and neither the timber nor the agricultural industries are thriving in our commmuity and their problems have had and will continue to influence our school district. Additional major changes, such as those I am testifying against will further reduce the capacity of the School District to provide quality educational opportunities for students.

The bill that you are proposing will not help our community any further.

Specifically, during the past few years our timber severence tax and our federal forest fee revenues have fallen, even though the cost associated with educating our children have risen.

Additional cuts in the timber harvest will further reduce these revenues for our school system.

In addition, the assessed evaluation of all taxable property in the Elgin School District in the last two years has fallen a total of 14 million dollars, and this is basically due to reductions in the assessed valuations of properties caused by loss of homes because they cannot any longer afford them because they do not have a job.

Specifically, due mainly to labor cutbacks in the local Boise Cascade timber mills enrollments in the Elgin School District continue to decline.

The Elgin School District Board of Directors have subsequently reduced district expenditures and personnel to correspond with the lower enrollments.

The loss of jobs in the area has already hurt the Elgin community and economy. The proposed reductions of timber allocations for cutting wood have further depressed the local economy.

People without employment pay no State income tax to support their schools and yet they still must be provided with food stamps and employment benefits and support for the education of their children by those remaining in the area. Property owners are having a rough time paying property taxes, especially when they also must pay taxes to support many of their unemployed neighbors in the Elgin community schools.

Additional reductions in the timber allotments will not be beneficial to the Elgin community. The reductions will affect jobs. Lost jobs will reduce taxes and tax bases. Reduced taxes will affect quality education opportunities.

Our nation's future depends on the quality of education given today.

For the sake of our children, please vote against the timber harvesting quotas and adding additional wilderness and buffer areas in our national forests.

Boise Cascade has two mills in our town. They have tried to reorganize to become more efficient. We have lost over 100 students in the last three years. 100 students with State aid, as we are talking about, is $150,000 in State aid we are losing. We are also losing five teachers.

Where do we continue making our cuts? The awkward thing is many people are still living in Elgin who no longer have jobs. The unemployment benefits are also ceasing. We are in a situation where their children still must go to school. The remaining tax payers therefore must pay for this bill.

It is becoming harder on those remaining also for the same reason. They are not making more money. The loss of jobs has already hurt the Elgin community and the economy.

The proposed reductions that you have put forth in your bill will further harm our local economy.

Obviously Boise Cascade is a major factor in our community. We do not want Boise Cascade to have to cut back further, which will cut back the quality of our educational program, and as an educator, I say the future of our nation is dependent upon the quality of the education we give our students today.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you, Dr. Reed.

STATEMENT OF BOB L. PERIMAN, SUPERINTENDENT, UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 5

Mr. **Periman**. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, I am Bob Periman, Superintendent of Schools for the Union School District. And as the District Superintendent of District No. 5 I wish to express my opposition to Senator Packwood's Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill, Senate Bill 1803, for the following reasons:

Specifically, for the fact that we will lose, and we have lost 25 percent of our timber receipts over the past five years.

We have experienced continued levy defeats in our district. Last year we went to the voters, asking them to approve a levy four times and we finally had to make considerable reductions to stay within our tax base because the district could not see themselves paying any more additional taxes.

Our school enrollment is at this time fairly static. However, at the present time 120 students out of 480 students are timber or forest related.

If we were to lose any of the timber related industry in our area, it would have a tremendous impact upon our basic school support fund, which is one of the basic reliance of our administration for funding of our district school. We have impact in the student's education in this point where it is a bare minimum education, and it is our current feeling that additional impact would be a considerable detriment to the students of our district.

It is my recommendation that the Forest Service consider some alternative proposal to S.B. 1803.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Periman follows:]

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 5
Post Office Box K
Union, Oregon 97883 (503) 562-6115

Bob L. Perlman
Superintendent

August 19,1986

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: SB 1803

As the District Superintendent of School District No. 5 I wish to express my opposition to Senator Packwood;s Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill for the following reasons:

1. Forest Receipts--Over the past five years the school district forest receipts were:

1985-86	$ 21,399
1984-85	17,799
1983-84	19,154
1982-83	9,677
1981-82	39,828

As illustrated by the above receipts, the school district's participation in timber revenue has been sporadic during years when the timber industry is supposed to be fairly stable. Loss of any of this revenue source caused by harvest curtailment due to the effects of the Wilderness Bill would have a financial impact on an already impacted budget.

2. School Enrollment--School enrollment directly affects the amount of Basic School Support the school district receives. The following Average Daily Membership table illustrates enrollment for the past five years

1985-86	480.6
1984-85	459.4
1983-84	480.9
1982-83	455.4
1981-82	480.6

These enrollment figures illustrates normal fluctuations which occur annually. However, according to our P.L. 874 report for last year, we recorded 120 students whose parents worked on or lived on Federal

UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 5
Post Office Box K
Union, Oregon 97883 (503) 562-6115

Bob L. Periman
Superintendent

Forest property. It seems obvious to me that any loss of timber related employment could impact the District's student enrollment up to 120 students. However, no matter how small, any loss of students will have a tremendous impact upon the district budget.

It is my recommendation that the Forest Service consider some alternative proposal to SB 1803

Thank you for your kind Attention.

Sincerely,

Bob L Periman

Bob L. Periman, Supt.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF CHARLES W. WILTSE, JR., SUPERINTENDENT, BAKER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. WILTSE. Senator, Chuck Wiltse, Superintendent of Schools at Baker. And I would like to provide you with information I have also shared with the Supervisor of Wallowa-Whitman Forest.

How the Forest Service manages the Wallowa-Whitman Forest has a direct effect on the educational services provided to young people by our staff in our school system.

It has come to my attention that the Forest Service is presently in the process of developing the multi-year plan and that a local business is proposing an alternative said to promote adequate stability. Adequate stability of resources from the Forest Service will benefit the operation of the educational system and the people of our community and local businesses.

During the past ten years, drastic fluctuations have occurred in the resources received from forest production. Resources received have ranged from $70,000 to $360,000 during this period of time. The average for the past ten years has been $177,000.

Drastic fluctuations of this nature impedes the educational planning process and generally creates negativisim in a community when additional burdens are placed upon other resources.

Any plan proposed which reduces the employment will have an additional effect upon the financial resources of our School District.

As employment decreases, so do the number of students attending our schools.

Basic school support from the State of Oregon is based upon the number of students in attendance. Although the funds become less, many operational costs remain the same or increase, causing reductions of services to young people and adults in our community.

Reduced population decreases business activity and subsequently has two additional effects upon financing of schools.

When local businesses and their facilities cease to exist, local taxes needed are spread over fewer taxpayers, generally resulting in higher taxes.

Second, as these families move, the reduced student population causes further reductions in funds received from the State, which again places a heavier load upon local taxpayers.

As local taxes increase, the community will look less desirable to businesses looking to locate here.

Currently, local leaders are attempting to improve the economic base for our community. To facilitate this endeavor, the community, at this time, needs to be able to add to, not substitute, for the current economy.

During a time of economic diversification, such as tourism, the community needs to maintain its present economic base. Substituting one industry for another, at this time, could result in a no growth situation. Any no growth situation has a negative effect upon our school system.

Once a plan is adopted, it is extremely important that the personnel implementing the plan understand the effect of their decisions are having upon the schools and local community.

It has come to our attention that some timber sales are essentially going unsold, then rebid, etc. Are these timber sales priced reasonably so mills can participate in the bidding process on a profitable basis?

It would appear that with current technology and trained staff, more accurate values could be placed so as to ensure sales and reduce the ineffectiveness of repeating the process.

All subtractions made from timber sales, which reduce revenues to the county and schools, must be scrutinized carefully. Are these subtractions necessary? If so, are they being accomplished in the most effective and economic manner, so as to have as little effect as possible on the income to local entities.

Over 50 percent of our county is federally owned. With so much of this area coming under the influence of the Forest Service, the resulting effects upon local communities must be considered in the adoption of any plan.

Currently, much attention is being given to animals, trees, recreation, so on, and indeed it should, but the effects on local institutions, business and people must also receive consideration.

Local forests are a resource upon which local communities have relied, and upon which local people have made investments, both personal and public, such as schools.

Any fluctuations in the way the Forest Service is doing business will have the effect upon local communities.

Forest Service management personnel must maintain a broad perspective of the ramifications of their decision making.

To provide the most effective educational system, stable funding resources are necessary. I would ask that much importance be placed upon adequate and stable funding for schools, in the consideration and implementation of any final plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my feeling in the development stages of planning.

If I can be of any further assistance, please contact me.

Senator Hatfield. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ERIC FLETCHER, PRESIDENT, OREGON AFL–CIO

Mr. Fletcher. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, I am Eric Fletcher, President of the Oregon AFL–CIO, a volunteer federation of 300 local unions and councils of unions with Oregon membership of 100,000 workers.

I am also appearing here this morning on behalf of the Western Council of Lumber, Production Industrial Workers, AFL–CIO, a wood products based council of unions representing 30,000 workers in the woods and mills of Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho and California.

I would just briefly summarize my testimony and request that the three page printed hand-out be entered in the official record.

I appear this morning in opposition to the proposed Hells Canyon Wilderness addition. The paramount issue of our membership who work in the woods and the mills that would be adversely affected are jobs, loss of jobs.

The employment in the two county area that would be affected is already above the national average. The jobs that would be lost to our membership are family wage jobs. Not fast food McDonald jobs, not high tech assembly jobs that pay five or six dollars an hour, but family wage jobs, jobs that allow folks to raise a family

Oregon has already lost 22,000 family wage jobs in the last five years. Enough is enough.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Fletcher follows:]

Oregon AFL-CIO

IRVIN H. FLETCHER, PRESIDENT
ROBERT BAUGH, SECRETARY-TREASURER

SALEM OFFICE,
1900 HINES STREET S.E. SALEM OREGON 97302

TELEPHONE 585-6320
FROM PORTLAND DIAL 224-3169

August 1986

TO: ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
U.S. SENATE

FROM: IRV FLETCHER, PRESIDENT

RE: PROPOSED HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS ADDITION

The Oregon AFL-CIO and the Western Council, LPIW appreciate the opportunity to present a statement today in support of our members in and around Elgin, Joseph and La Grande who want to achieve stability for their local economies, their jobs and their families' futures.

Once again the jobs of these lumber, plywood and particleboard workers are threatened by proposed wilderness legislation. Under consideration is a 6.5 MMBF reduction in the volume of timber harvested annually in the Hells Canyon area and a 13 MMBF reduction in the area's potential yield. This translates into a loss of three dozen direct jobs under current and highly conservative harvest scenarios and a loss of over six dozen direct jobs if we consider the true job-carrying capacity of these timberlands. In either case, twice as many additional jobs would be lost in ancillary sectors.

It is inexcusable to be considering legislation that will have this kind of negative job impact given the high rates of unemployment in Union and Wallowa Counties (projections for the next monthly report are 9.8% and 8.4% respectively). Furthermore the level of economic diversification in these two counties cannot be expected to accomodate the transitioning of the unemployed into other careers.

It is shameful that another incremental reduction in the area's timber-cut has been proposed a mere two years after the passage of the Oregon Wilderness Bill. In that go-around, 26 MMBF of allowable cut were lost on the Wallowa-Whitman and Umatilla National Forests. Under the recent planning scenarios there is another 40+ MMBF reduction on the Wallowa-Whitman.

The prospect of further timber and job losses is totally unacceptable--- especially when Wallowa County already has the lion's share of Eastern Oregon wilderness. Enough is enough. In fact a leading Congressional proponent of the Oregon Wilderness Bill as much as admitted that we have already reached the limit when he stated, "...believe me, there will not be any more wilderness than what I introduce in Congress." Perhaps he forgot to mention which year.

Oregon AFL-CIO and LPIW members resent the lack of concern which some of our law-makers show toward the jobs and timberbase issues. During debate on the Oregon Wilderness Bill another Congressman labelled these concerns "bunk". Yet when 12% of our members in the immediate vicinity lost their jobs because of his bill we did not witness him paying anybody's lost wages nor do we recollect any contributions made by him to the local tax roles. But then it was not his Congressional District that suffered either.

Oregon AFL-CIO and LPIW members are also resentful of legislative attempts to placate us with hollow language. The Oregon Wilderness Bill contained "release language" which supposedly excluded further wilderness considerations. Yet, here we are, just two years later, again debating the merits of further wilderness expansions. What kind of carrot will they use this time? Or do they expect us to roll over and play dead?

The Oregon AFL-CIO and the LPIW loath the "heads-I-win, tails-you-lose" system through which the preservationists incessantly pursue wilderness classifications for the public's multiple-use forests. Whenever a wilderness designation is made, opponents of wilderness expansions permanently lose the opportunity to harvest timber on the affected acreage. However the preservationists are seldom burdened by the permanence of an adverse decision.

Non -wilderness areas have been considered and reconsidered for wilderness inclusions in the early 1970's, the late 1970's, the early to mid-1980's and now we are going through the process again. We have come to expect the next wilderness episode with the same certainty of another Sylvestor Stallone serial; despite the politicians' assurances that every bill is the last one.

The preservationists also have numerous alternatives available to them for the defacto bestowal of the wilderness designation. Among the litany of possible timber withdrawals are: resource natural areas, botanical areas, special recreation areas, historical areas, geologic areas, wild and scenic rivers, streamside management units and areas of critical environmental concern. Opponents of wilderness expansions have never had this repertoire available to them for the purpose of circumventing decisions which are supposedly democratically determined, final, and inimical to our own interests. We are fed up with the system that is consistently binding on the advocates of multiple-use but which allows the preservationists to continually subvert the entire process.

The Oregon AFL-CIO and the LPIW oppose the proposed expansion of wilderness in Hells Canyon on the basis that it is "greed" and not "need" motivated. Our union has acquired an impassioned distaste for the special interest groups that know no restraint when they wield their economic and political power solely on the basis of their self-centered and extremist agendas. These groups show sparse compassion for the rest of society that is left to grapple with the fall-out from the special interests' inhumane compulsions. The proposal to double Hells Canyon wilderness is a paramount example of "me first" on the part of the preservationists.

As representatives of Organized Labor, the Oregon AFL-CIO and the LPIW are fundamentally opposed to the preservationists' narcissistic pursuits - just as we are opposed to further unemployment among our members and continued debate on the wilderness issue.

Thank you.

IHF:jz
opeiu #11
afl-cio

Senator Hatfield. Thank you, Mr. Fletcher.

Now let me check once again. Is Mr. Bob Messinger of the Imbler School Board or Mr. Nick Eddy, the Imbler Superintendent, Mr. John Mills of Imbler School Board, Mr. Don Curry of the Baker School Board or Mr. Russ Smith of the La Grande School Board, here at this time?

Unidentified Speaker. Sir, I could speak for him.

Senator Hatfield. We will reserve the place in the record for their written testimony.

Anyone not physically present will still be given an oportunity to submit their testimony in writing. Thank you very much, gentlemen.

Now may I invite Mr. Herman Ruben of the Nez Perce Tribe, Mr. Ken Hall and Mr. Randy Williams of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatillas.

All right, gentlemen, you may proceed.

May we have order please.

STATEMENT OF LOUIE DICK ON BEHALF OF RANDY WILLIAMS

Mr. Dick. I am pleased to be here and I would like to welcome you two Senators back to our country called cup cup a. This place is a good place here.

My people came from the Imnaha. These words that I speak are not my own. They are words that were spoken in 1855, at the time of the treaty. They were unheard at that time. They were not understood.

By that I mean to say I feel like I am in a hundred yard race, starting 95 yards behind, because your education system is designed to exclude Indian values, and I have learned among my people that the Indian values that I have an awesome responsibility to protect my food.

My food is salmon, we call it newsa, steelhead, trout, also the deer. We have food that the ladies gather called cows paykay, nooch.

Those foods I realize in your religion probably are separate but in mine it is all one, as well as water. Water is a religion with me. It is not an accommodation.

And I have to speak in less than three minutes and try to explain to a group of people and yourself who have been groomed and educated in such a manner that our value is not recognized.

There are probably seven or eight items that are inseparable. When I speak of the earth, it is me. When I speak of water, it is me. When I speak of Indian food, it is me. When I speak of religion, it is also me.

So that's the responsibility that I hear from our elders, telling us that my religion place called the long house, the cowly country, as they say, take care of the food, and that is no different than the earth.

So that salmon, that deer that goes in that area, we must protect the food, for my Indian people, because my generations previously have fought for that, his name was haliska mally arks kooch, kooch ally my okka.

They fought in the Cayuse war and the Nez Perce war, and you are familiar with that.

But they were defeated and they gave that same speech that I ask now, is that we wish to have this wilderness area to protect our food. It's Indian food.

I realize that maybe for you folks it's a recreation to hunt. It's a recreation to catch deer or catch fish and steelhead.

To me it is not a recreation, it is a religion and I am protecting my religion and my earth.

We must remember this, my people tell me what is done to the earth is done to me. What we do to the earth we do to me, the Indian person.

In closing, I would hope to remind you what we do to the earth we do to ourselves. That's as I have spoken.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much.

Would you identify yourself please.

STATEMENT OF KEN HALL, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION

Mr. **Hall**. Ken Hall, Confederated Tribes.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation appreciate the opportunity to provide input into the decision making process of House Bill 1803.

The Confederated Tribes have utilized the area legally known as Hells Canyon National Recreation Area since time immemorial as a usual and accustomed place to fish, hunt, gather roots and berries, and practice our way to life.

The Tribe reserved the opportunity to utilize these resources under the Treaty of 1855 and are determined to protect their treaty rights.

All federal agencies have a specific federal trust responsibility to uphold the treaty right, however, the Tribe is increasingly being placed in a proactive mode to monitor and provide management guidelines to these various agencies to insure protection.

It is important to recognize the co-management authority of the Confederated Tribes in regard to the natural resources of the treaty ceded and usual and accustomed areas which include the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

Management policies set forth should be oriented towards long term optimum benefit for generations to come, not for short term expedients.

The Confederated Tribes support and promote a management philosophy which provides a diversified economy.

The Tribe recognizes the need and dependency of Wallowa and Baker Counties for timber to support their economies. Unfortunately, there is an over-dependence upon timber and cattle in these counties as is obvious from their median income rankings of 34 and 35 out of Oregon's 36 counties.

The wisdom of this history lesson should be carefully considered in this wilderness proposal. The two to four percent loss of timber by the additional allocation of wilderness must be weighed against substantial potential loss of water quality, recreational and commercial fisheries, dwondling big game habitat and hunting revenues, camping, and other forms of tourism.

The very landforms themselves are composed of sensitive soils, steep slopes, sparsely timbered stringer ridges, and high elevation slow growing eco-systems on the majority of the proposed wilderness.

The original intent of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Comprehensive Plan to preserve and promote this unique area for recreation and natural resource protection was an excellent plan and if it had been properly implemented, perhaps the need for wilderness protection would not be so important.

The example of the extremely poor quality road up to Hat Point on Lord Flat that is blocked for recreational use during afternoon and evenings because of log truck traffic and the lack of campgrounds and subsequent potential visitor use is a case in point.

The beautiful Imnaha River is a very important and favorite place for tribal members to fish. However, once prolific runs are barely viable today.

Tribal and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife policy on the Imnaha is natural enhancement management which places special emphasis on the unique habitat of this watershed. Non-game wildlife and endangered species which have had sightings are also imprtant to preserve and protect. Sightings of moose, wolves, grizzly bear, and wolverines have occurred in recent years on proposed portions of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Wilderness and should be seriously investigated.

The Confederated Tribes support the inclusion of the portion of the Snake River from the lower scenic designation boundary down to Asotin as wild and scenic allocation. This will help preserve fisheries and the riparian values and promote use by recreationalists for the future.

The Tribe supports the intent of House Bill 1803 to protect this area and provide a diversified economy. Additional and more detailed written comments and recommendations will be submitted under the appropriate time limitations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and I hope you will consider our recommendations carefully.

[Additional material follows:]

CONFEDERATED TRIBES
of the
Umatilla Indian Reservation
P.O. Box 638
PENDLETON, OREGON 97801
Area Code (503) Phone 276-3165

GENERAL COUNCIL
and
BOARD of TRUSTEES

H

August 29, 1986

Honorable Senator Mark O. Hatfield
Room 114, Pioneer Courthouse
Portland, OR 97204

RE: Additional comments to House Bill S.1803

Dear Senator Hatfield:

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation are appreciative of the opportunity to express our comments, concerns and recommendations regarding House Bill S.1803. Opening remarks given at the August 19, 1986 hearing in LaGrande, Oregon summarized the tribes position regarding the wilderness proposal and concerns of past and present management. A copy is enclosed for your review. The Confederated Tribes would particularly emphasize that we believe current and historic NRA management implementation to be an abrogation of the Treaty rights that were retained by the tribes in 1855. The lack of protection of big game habitat and fisheries habitat in lands allocated for dispersed recreation/timber management are the reasoning for this belief. Poor economic planning and overdependency of limited "commodity" type resources such as timber are not excuses for despoiling habitat and eroding legal treaty rights.

Multiple use implementation by way of forest service management in Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in timber management areas has been timber management with all other values subservient and compromised. The NRA dispersed recreation/timber management area has been business as usual. Evaluation by the Department of Natural Resources of the Confederated Tribes leads us to believe that the silvicultural Department of the H.C.N.R.A. is doing a good job of managing timber, but not fish, wildlife and recreational values in the same areas. The intent of a National recreation area should have recreation, wildlife and fisheries values as priorities in the entire area.

To our knowledge the H.C.N.R.A. does not have a Fisheries Biologist, Wildlife Biologist or even a recreational specialist attached to it. The entire Wallowa-Whitman Forest is devoid of a fisheries biologist. Limited administrative personnel out of the supervisors office certainly do not adequately administer to the above mentioned needed areas of expertise. The proposed wilderness lies in areas of high value as scenic area, elk and bighorn sheep refuges and transportation corridors and very steep, sensitive sloped fishery drainages.

Since previous and current management by the Forest Service has not produced a compromise between wilderness and multiple use (very similar to the problems that led to the enactment of the North Fork John Day wilderness) the tribe is led into a situation of supporting the classification of wilderness to guarantee protection of natural resources. The tribes recommendation is a modification of House Bill S.1803 with the following recommendations:

1) Lands currently allocated in the H.C.N.R.A. Comprehensive Management Plan (including Lake Fork area) be retained in a dispersed recreation/timber management allocation on a condition of being managed for recreation, fisheries and wildlife values as priorities over timber harvest when timber harvest conflicts and degrades these other values. An additional condition is that the Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, U.S. Forest Service and appropriate fish and wildlife agencies such as Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife mutually decide where conflicts occur and provide agreement to management of recreation, fish and wildlife values and habitat in the dispersed recreation/ timber management area.

2) All areas outside of current allocation of dispersed recreation/timber management that are proposed for additional wilderness become allocated to wilderness to guarantee protection of their exceptional high value to fish and wildlife and pristine visual quality.

3) Inclusion of the remaining Snake river down to Asotin be designated as wild and scenic.

4) A cap of 7,000,000 gross board feet volume per year including all regulated and unregulated harvest be instituted for a period of two years during which time the Forest Service, tribes, fish and wildlife agencies and other appropriate authoritative agencies will mutually decide upon a future allowable cut volume.

5) A fisheries biologist, a wildlife biologist, and a recreational specialist should be assigned specifically to the H.C.N.R.A.

6) A road closure system on secondary roads that are deemed to be in sensitive areas by the Forest Service, tribes and ODFW. The "Green dot system" which is extremely difficult to enforce and lacking in success is not acceptable.

7) Greater priority of funding to enhance and maintain important use roads such as the Hat Point road.

8) In instances of livestock competition with wildlife and fisheries values that evaluation and correction take place to protect wildlife. An example is the danger of disease problems transmitted from domestic sheep to rocky mountain bighorn sheep.

9) Policies and recommendations submitted in response to Wallowa-Whitman National Forest shall apply to the H.C.N.R.A. (A copy is enclosed).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment Senator Hatfield. The tribe desires to meet with you in the coming months to discuss this issue.

Respectfully,

Carl D. Sampson

for Ken Hall
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla
Indian Reservation

GENERAL COUNCIL
and
BOARD of TRUSTEES

CONFEDERATED TRIBES
of the
Umatilla Indian Reservation

P.O. Box 638
PENDLETON, OREGON 97801
Area Code (503) Phone 276-3165

JULY 14, 1986

MR. JERRY ALLEN, WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST
FEDERAL BUILDING
P.O. BOX 907
BAKER, OR 97814

DEAR MR. ALLEN:

ATTACHED YOU WILL FIND COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT PLAN OF THE WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST. THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES DO NOT RECOMMEND A PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AT THIS TIME, ALTHOUGH ALTERNATIVE F GIVES THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF PROTECTION TO THE TREATY RIGHT AND ALSO TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST. ALTERNATIVE F WOULD THEN BE THE MOST SUPPORTABLE, OF ALL LISTED ALTERNATIVES, BY THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES.

THE PLAN WAS REVIEWED BY THE INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM ON THE UMATILLA RESERVATION AND MEMBERS OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION AND THE FISH & WILDLIFE COMMITTEE. THE I.D. TEAM CONSISTS OF TRIBAL/FEDERAL RESOURCE MANAGERS, PROFESSIONALS AND TECHNICIANS. THE APPOINTED OFFICIALS SERVE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS REQUIRED BY IT'S CONSTITUTION & BY LAWS TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT TREATY RESERVED RIGHTS AND RESOURCES. THEREFORE, THE COMMENTS ON THE WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST PLAN WERE REVIEWED BY A QUORUM OF THE BOARD ON JULY 14, 1986.

IT IS OF PRIMARY IMPORTANCE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST RECOGNIZE THE CO-MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION IN MANAGING THE NATURAL RESOURCE VALUES IN THE 1855 TREATY CEDED AREA, AND USUAL AND ACCUSTOMED AREAS. MANAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD REFLECT THIS COOPERATIVE STATURE AND AUTHORITY.

WE WISH YOU AND YOUR STAFF GOOD LUCK IN CLEARING THE PLAN FOR APPROVAL AND THAT YOU WILL CONSIDER OUR COMMENTS VERY CAREFULLY. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT, RANDY WILLIAMS, ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER, DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, AT 276-8221.

Ken Hall
KEN HALL, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CC: JAMES TORRENCE/REGIONAL FOREST SUPERVISOR
D.N.R./RIGHTS PROTECTION FILE

TREATY JUNE 9, 1855 ◆ CAYUSE, UMATILLA AND WALLAWALLA TRIBES

CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION

– FOREST PLAN INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

Louie Dick, Jr. - Vice - Chairman, Natural Resources Commission
Michael J. Farrow - Director, Department of Natural Resources
Weisha Mize - Tribal Attorney
Jerry Lauer - Wildlife Biologist/B.I.A.
Don Motanic - Forester/B.I.A.
Aaron Skirvin - Water Resources Officer/D.N.R.
Jo Marie Hile - Land Use Planner/D.N.R.
Larry Calkins - Forester/D.N.R.
Gary James - Fisheries Biologist/D.N.R.
Donald Sampson - Fisheries Biologist/D.N.R.
Randy Williams - Environmental Planner/I.D. Team Coordinator/D.N.R.

Mr. Jerry B. Allen, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Federal Building
P.O. Box 907
Baker, OR 97814

RE: Formal comments of C.T.U.I.R. on Wallowa-Whitman D.E.I.S.

Mr. Allen:

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Wallowa-Whitman draft environmental impact statement. The lands within the legal boundaries of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest have been utilized by the Walla Walla, Cayuse and Umatilla tribes for fishing, hunting, root gathering, medicinal and religious uses since time immemorial. These lands provide their home as well as a way of life, and retainment of these rights has been federally recognized and upheld by treaty since 1855. Protection and enhancement of these finite natural resources is absolutely critical to sustaining these treaty rights; however, various management policies have qualitatively and quantitatively reduced and compromised to a high degree almost every one of these natural resources. Past management practices of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest have caused significant degradation of anadromous fisheries habitat, water quality and big game winter and summer ranges. The Confederated Tribes are determined to protect these natural resources and desire to cooperatively address forest management policy and provide input that will be utilized.

There is often a tendency of the Forest service for an overdependence of mitigation to solve degraded habitat problems. Mitigation for degraded watershed and other habitat has proven not only very expensive but seriously deficient in returning habitat to optimal productivity. Prevention of further degradation or loss of natural resources and enhancement of soil, water, flora and fauna is therefore preferable to the Confederated Tribes.

The Confederated Tribes would like to commend the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in its effort to plan in a comprehensive manner with specific management strategies allocated to particular geographical areas. The willingness to enhance and maintain a high quality level of communication between the forest service and tribes is also very much appreciated. The Confederated Tribes do not recommend a preferred alternative at this time due to a lack of sufficient information provided in the D.E.I.S. The Confederated Tribes submit the following recommendations, comments, questions and deficiencies regarding the D.E.I.S.

The Confederated Tribes would like to remind the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest of its federal trust responsibility to protect the treaty right which has been interpreted in the case, U.S. vs. Washington to include fisheries habitat protected from man-made despoilation. The Confederated Tribes feel current forest management practices have not protected fisheries habitat sufficiently and therefore are an abrogration to the treaty right. The Forest planning process provides an excellent opportunity to correct these management deficiencies and to preserve these valuable resources for generations to come and for all concerned.

Concerns of the Confederated Tribes are categorically formatted according to the areas of concern which were denoted in "Recommendations for National Forest Plans" prepared by the Department of Natural Resources of the Confederated Tribes and submitted to Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in May, 1985. The D.E.I.S. is general in context and lacks specific criteria and guidelines for standards sufficient to protect anadromous fisheries habitat and other areas of concern, therefore, the Confederated Tribes have included criteria and standards which should be utilized to afford more adequate protection. The areas of concern are economics; timber management; fisheries; wildlife; roads; watershed management; grazing; and roots, berries, medicinal plants, historic and cultural sites. These concerns are intrinsically interconnected and discussed within context of each other. A summarized list of recommendations is made concluding comments on the areas of concern.

ECONOMICS

The largest and most painfully obvious compromise of treaty rights has resulted from past forest management policies of heavily biasing what have been labeled as "commodity" values such as timber, grazing, and mining. Those values termed as "amenities" including anadromous fisheries, resident trout, big game and recreation have been managed in a subservient manner around the prioritized "commodities". The D.E.I.S. suggests the preferred alternative to be a balanced alternative but to the contrary it is classically biased toward "commodity" interests. On page II-114 Benefit/Cost ratios for recreation are highest for all alternatives while B/C ratios for timber are quite low, yet recreation and other amenity values are sacrificed in the "preferred" and supposedly balanced alternative C. An example is allocation of 656,355 acres (one fourth of entire forest) to management strategy 1 which is emphasized for timber and forage production and subsequent significant increase in roads and activity levels which are deleterious to elk habitat, fisheries habitat and decline in semiprimitive recreation areas, all of which have demands greater than present capabilities. What is the amount of subsidies given to timber sales and associated roads as compared with subsidies and revenues in behalf of fisheries enhancement?

Recent impacts on local economy due to major dependency on timber and livestock industries are excellent examples of the folly in not having a diversified economy. Baker County median income is ranked as 35th out of Oregon's 36 counties, Wallowa County ranks 34th and Union ranks 13th. Union County has the most diversified economy of the Tri-County area and is maintaining its younger aged population, primarily because of Eastern Oregon State College, while Wallowa and Baker are indicating a loss of younger aged people - the effects of a poor local economy. The timber and wood products industry will not measurably reverse the general economy of the Tri-County area, particularly when timber market values and competing British Columbia and southern forest markets currently and are forecast to have long term negative effects on northwest timber markets. The Confederated Tribes supports a forest management philosophy which produces and encourages a more diversified economy arising from an overall optimization of all natural resource values.

Economic models are available for use to assess fisheries, hunting and various recreational activities in a comprehensive manner in regard to local economy. They include statistical evaluation with dollar values on travel, food, lodging, services and etc. Yet Wallowa-Whitman D.E.I.S. did not utilize these economic tools to assess "amenity" dollar values in a thorough manner. It should be emphasized that, although these amenity dollar values have not been fairly represented in the D.E.I.S., the fishing, hunting, food gathering, recreational use and cultural values dependent upon these natural resources within the forest have a very tangible and perhaps more long-lasting positive impact on the quality of life for both the Confederated Tribes and all other citizens utilizing Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The religion of the Confederated Tribes is and has been in jeopardy due to a lack of opportunity to physically collect and utilize fish, roots, medicinal plants and enable tribal members to learn the religious significance of each type of food or ceremony dependent upon forest resources. An excellent example are tribal imposed conservation closures to fish in most of the usual and accustomed fishing rivers of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest due to both off-forest and on-forest impacts. The detrimental on-forest impact can be negated by Wallowa-Whitman National Forest plans if so chosen.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Management should be directed toward long term maintenance of forest values in a broad sense, not limited to short term expedients. Management alternatives such as the listed departure alternatives which would increase regulated cut volumes in the short term will not allow the forest to maintain sustained yields and comply with federal regulations. Market demand at the end of the life of the plan or at the year 2000 is expected to be greater than presently exists due to a decrease in availability of timber on private forest lands that will be available. Even greater emphasis than now exists would then be the case, as a subsequent plan is formulated, to increase the volume of cut from Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Both short-term and long-term fisheries and big game values would be sacrificed from harvest in excess of sustained yields. The Confederated Tribes therefore recommend exclusion of departure oriented volumes from realistically viable alternatives.

The Confederated Tribes feel that even-aged management across the board will not fulfill the multiple use needs and best manage all of the types of ecosystems within the forest. It is recommended that both even-aged and uneven-aged practices be utilized to maintain a diversity of habitat necessary to fish and wildlife. Disease and insect damaged stands of timber should be managed sensitively but primary emphasis should be placed upon fish and wildlife values in these areas. Rather than exceed any single cutting unit of 40 acres in size for large blocks of these damaged stands a mosaic cut plan over longer periods of time with emphasis on regeneration should be utilized. Innovative methodology should be utilized to manage these large stands to retain and enhance optimum ecological diversity for fish and wildlife. A map of current disease and insect damaged stands with acreage size and potential management effects on fisheries and wildlife habitat should be included in the final D.E.I.S. An updated map and appropriate acreages should be provided for interested agency review on an annual basis. Harvest management of timber from high elevation and slow growth areas or where sensitive soils and watersheds exist should be prioritized for maintenance of these areas for Fish and Wildlife habitat areas as opposed to low benefit/cost timber sales. Figures were presented in the D.E.I.S. that estimated board feet harvested/alternative, however, additional information should include the number of acres harvested and treated/decade to provide a better picture of forest wide cumulative impacts. The Confederated Tribes recommend that grassland-timber mosaic areas commonly found on north facing stringered slopes be deleted from the regulated timber volume base. These areas have been shown to provide preferable thermal and hiding cover for elk and other wildlife. These mosaic areas also maintain soil integrity and slope stability which protects water quality and anadromous fisheries. The Confederated Tribes also support accelerated establishment of timber stands in riparian zones with a particular emphasis to encourage white fir in these areas.

FISHERIES

The traditional ceremonial and subsistence use of anadromous fish and resident trout by the tribes are well known. Also well known is the fact that both on & off-forest impacts have contributed to a heavy cumulative impact. It has been the attitude of various National Forests that downstream impacts such as hydro-power projects and harvest management problems are so great at times that forest policies will not make significant differences. The Confederated Tribes believe that "downstream impacts" place even greater importance on the quality and quantity of fisheries habitat. Identified limiting factors of fisheries productivity are low summer flows, high summer water temperatures, high sedimentation levels, reduction of canopy, stream channelization, and poor riffle: pool ratios. All of these variables are associated with degraded riparian habitat and watershed quality. It is imperative that the forest plan recognize these variables and provide for non-degradation riparian management guidelines. Current management standards and criteria for protection of riparian areas within the forest are not adequate. The Confederated Tribes submit the following recommendations as minimum requirements to safeguard fisheries values.

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest must have a full time fisheries biologist to properly manage this extremely important resource. Though Wallowa-Whitman is the largest national forest in the northwest, with 7 river systems, it is the only Oregon forest without a fisheries biologist. All spring chinook and steelhead streams should have habitat protection and enhancement practiced to achieve 90% smolt habitat capability index. Habitat capability must be based on the total potential of the site not necessarily on the present habitat condition. Manage streamside vegetation to maintain an 80% shade canopy in areas of naturally occurring shade along all stream used by anadromous fish. Previous forest service interpretation has been an average of 80% of entire length which can leave large gaps in treated areas and adjacent to streams and is unacceptable. 100% snag level management in riparian areas should be practiced to provide needed instream habitat structure. No more than 10% of exposed mineral soil should be exposed and disturbed per project basis within 250 feet of all class I, II and III streams and associated wet areas. A no-cut buffer strip of 100 feet within class I, II and III streams is vital to riparian integrity as minimum requirements. Additional width of buffer strips should be implemented if slopes within 100 foot buffer are in excess of 45 degrees and therefore provide inadequate protection to water quality and riparian area from erosion and surface runoff. No-cut buffer strips of at least 50 feet should surround all springs, seeps, bogs and wetlands. Lack of protection in these areas results in increased evaporation, lowering of the groundwater level, and reduction of summer and fall flow levels in nearby streams. Recommended minimum buffer widths are necessary to provide adequate canopy shade, prevent buffer blow-down problems, and act as a vital filter to instream habitat and water quality. These recommendations should be in harmony with or supplemental to any or all management strategies utilized in the Wallowa-Whitman final E.I.S. Watersheds determined to be of high priority and of critical value to the Confederated Tribes are additionally recommended to include protective criteria of management strategy 18. These streams with appropriate reasoning are listed below.

North Fork John Day River - The most important production stream of the entire John Day basin; joint wild fish management policy for spring chinook and steelhead which depend on optimal quality habitat; drains from Wallowa-Whitman downstream into wilderness area requiring high water quality standards; and has traditionally been an especially important tribal usual & accustomed fishery.

Upper Grande Ronde Basin - Contains all life phases of spring chinook and steelhead; targeted spring chinook outplant area to increase natural production under Lower Snake river Comprehensive Plan;

intensively funded anadromous fish habitat improvements by B.P.A.; formerly productive usual & accustomed subsistence fishery with conservation closure since 1979 to allow enhancement efforts noted above to successfully generate tribal fishery; and serves as prime supply of water for mid and lower Grande Ronde affecting rearing habitat quality and quantity, water temperatures, and seasonal flows.

Catherine Creek - Formerly very productive subsistence fishery of spring chinook but now very reduced populations; targeted area under Lower Snake Comprehensive Plan for smolt outplanting; and considerable expenditures for screening irrigation diversions downstream are ongoing.

Joseph Creek - Wild management policy for steelhead which places emphasis on quality habitat; site of intensive B.P.A. funded enhancement efforts; and an important cultural site.

Imnaha - Spring chinook and steelhead were formerly productive tribal subsistence fishery but barely viable today due to depressed levels; natural enhancement management policy of tribes & ODFW places emphasis on the unique habitat of this system and fish run.

Lostine - Spring chinook and steelhead are providing limited tribal subsistance fishery which is on the upswing; retainment of natural riparian character is vital.

Lower mainstem Grande Ronde - Contains important juvenile rearing and critical adult passage for spring chinook and steelhead; potential fall chinook habitat for spawning and rearing; and proper temperature levels are crucial to habitat quality.

The Confederated Tribes supports all proposed wild, scenic, and recreational rivers for the reasoning of protecting riparian and fisheries habitat and promoting a diversity of economy. Please refer to the section Grazing for fisheries concerns in regard to grazing management.

WILDLIFE

Bureau of Indian Affairs and tribal studies suggest that substantial portions of the 5,500 or more elk wintering on the Umatilla Indian Reservation in recent years utilize the upper Grande Ronde basin as well as portions of the north fork of the Powder River and Upper North Fork John Day River as summer range. The tribe deems these areas to be of special importance for quality habitat and recommends only management strategies 3A, 4, 6 and 18 be considered in these summer range areas. The transportation corridors between these summer ranges and the winter range on or adjacent to the reservation are also of great importance as is the winter range on forest land itself between the reservation and summer ranges. The Confederated Tribes therefore recommends only management strategies 3. 4, 6 and 18 be considered in these winter ranges in order to provide adequate thermal, hiding and security habitat for elk. The exceptions are the Starkey Experimental Forest which should remain under strategy 14 and the current R.N.A. strategy 12 area. Management strategies 1 and 2 do not provide adequate protection for elk and enhancement of their habitat due to increased thermal cover loss in summer ranges, inadequate forage/cover ratios, and especially impacting high activity level from increased roads and their use. Road caused impacts are perhaps the highest on the priority list of problems associated with elk use of any particular geographical area. The Confederated Tribes therefore recommend a very aggressive road closure program with roads being put to bed and a reduction in unneccessary construction quality for secondary roads. New roads may be minimized by maintaining unroaded natural areas and utilizing management strategies 3, 3A, 6 or 18 instead of strategies 1 or 2 forest - wide. Open roads in management strategy 18 should be a maximum of 1.5 miles/square mile to protect elk utilization in these assigned areas. It is unneccessary to force a compromise of protection for elk and fisheries habitat between management strategies 3, 3A and strategy 18. Please refer to the section on Roads for additional specific recommendations regarding road impacts on elk. Recommendations of agriculture handbook #553 (Thomas) should be utilized and enforced with regard to visual buffer, canopy closure for thermal cover on both winter and summer range, and effective size of created opening. Buffer strips recommended for fisheries riparian habitat will also be essential to elk and other big game as travel corridors.

Because of the diminished amount, size and widely scattered old growth stands which makes them uniquely important to pileated woodpeckers and other species, particularly when considering management practices around and adjacent to these stands, the Confederated Tribes recommends retainment of all existing old growth stands. These stands are a highly favored traditional place to hunt for big game by tribal members, and certain woodpeckers and jays inhabiting the old growth are important to special ceremonial and religious uses also.

Snag dependent species such as woodpeckers are in jeopardy at the projected 27% level of large snags in the proposed alternative C. Actual retainment of even suggested population levels of cavity dwelling species is very suspect due to previous lack of enforcement and retainment of historically planned snag levels. The Confederated Tribes recommend a minimum of 60% of cavity dwelling species population potential by habitat provisions forest wide. Past forest practices have favored cutting ponderosa pine old growth stands and leaving old growth stands of lesser quality for snag and old growth habitat species. Agriculture handbook #553 (Thomas) states ponderosa pine as the most highly favored tree species by pileated woodpeckers and therefore these stands are especially important.

ROADS

As stated previously, the excessive open roaded areas of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest have taken a heavy toll on the amount and quality of fisheries and wildlife habitat. It is imperative to enforce adequate road closure programs and minimize new road construction as much as possible for true multiple use benefit. The Confederated Tribes are very concerned with the amount of roads on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest and the management of those roads. A road may be built previous to a timber sale and then when the timber is actually sold the successful bidder has up to 5 years to harvest that sale. Harvest time may take 2-3 years and it is not uncommon to wait 2-3 years to determine whether or not seedlings should be planted. The pressure to utilize firewood in harvested areas often keeps these roads open for 2-3 years after harvest is complete. A continuous open road time of 10-12 years is and has been very realistic. This time does not even take into account the precommercial thinning on the original sale or another entirely different sale on the same road. The Confederated Tribes recommend a system of time constraints be implemented and enforced to significantly reduce this high level of open road time. Authorized use only of roads during various treatment stages should be utilized on secondary roads. Firewood gathering should be regulated in such a manner as to allow permittees adequate access to specific roads and areas instead of leaving roads open for several years to any entrant. Gates should be utilized for road closures during non-permitted use times as well as signs denoting closure or authorized use. The importance of implementation and enforcement of a successful transportation management system cannot be overemphasized, primarily due to the present impact on snag levels, elk habitat use, and fisheries habitat quality.

Page 3-3 of the D.E.I.S. states "of the 107,000 forested acres of roadless area outside the Hells Canyon National recreation area, 74% are considered technically or economically unsuited for timber production." This leaves only 26% of that forested roadless area outside the HCRNA or only 27,820 acres suitable for harvest. All of these acres are scheduled for harvest, most of which will occur during the next 3 decades. This proposed further reduction of forested semiprimitive roadless area leaves inadequate areas for refuge for elk in both winter and summer range and decreases quality recreational opportunities in semiprimitive areas. The Confederated Tribes therefore advocate only management strategies 3, 3A or 18 be considered in these areas to be entered and roads only be left open temporarily during harvesting and treatment, according to strict time constraint guidelines with subsequent gated road closures. This will help protect the very limited roadless natural area left on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

The Confederated Tribes cannot over-emphasize the importance of watersheds on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in providing water for multiple uses (in-stream and out-of-stream) on and off national forest lands. The water supplies needed for current and future human and livestock consumption, fish and wildlife habitat, irrigation, recreation, and economic development in the Tri-County area primarily originate on watersheds in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Three basic water-shed management concerns should be more specifically addressed in the DEIS: (1) surface water discharge, (2) ground water recharge, and (3) water quality protection. Vegetation management practices, road development and use, and land-use practices in general on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest profoundly affect these basic watershed management concerns. Moreover, the Confederated Tribes believe it is incumbent upon the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest to develop and implement a Forest Plan which intentionally and directly addresses goals to maintain and improve water quality, to promote uniform seasonal streamflow regimes, to increase water infiltration, and to produce good quality water in sufficient quantities to meet reasonable water needs for multiple beneficial uses in the Tri-County area. As presented in the DEIS, the scope of "watershed management" is limited to a few specific municipal watersheds. In the final EIS, scope of watershed management should be broadened to address the above-mentioned goals and to encompass the entire Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. These watersheds should be considered as nature's reservoirs and are the source of clean and high quality surface and ground waters. Indian custom, religion, and ceremony begin and end with water. It is classified as "medicine".

GRAZING

The Confederated Tribes recognize the need for a proper livestock grazing program on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest that will not destroy or cause deterioration to the sensitive ecosystems of the forest. It is imperative that fisheries and wildlife values be prioritized when livestock grazing practices negatively impact them. In areas where grazing is a limiting factor to achievement of 80% of naturally occurring shade canopy potential fencing should be utilized with other innovative techniques to restore and maintain high quality riparian areas. Fencing of both streambanks and exclusion of livestock should take place to insure the riparian area will recover to 80% shade level. Rotational and stocking level management techniques may then be applied in such a way as to maintain the riparian area quality. Use of fertilizer should be encouraged to enhance vegetative growth times and will subsequently benefit both riparian habitat and livestock grazing. Fences should be designed to allow livestock access to watering areas without degradation to the habitat. Stream crossings for livestock and big game should be considered. Streams having high runoff or winter ice flows should receive appropriate consideration for fencing distance from the bank. The D.E.I.S. contains insufficient information on grazing management criteria and standards. This information should be included in the final D.E.I.S. in detail. Whenever a negative impact on elk and other big game occurs due to livestock grazing, restraints upon livestock grazing should be implemented.

MONITORING

Without quality evaluation and enforcement of a well chosen final plan with excellent protective criteria for maintaining and enhancing the forests natural resources the practical outcome will cause further loss of natural resource values.
Monitoring of fisheries, wildlife and water management implementations has been a shortcoming of previous national forest plans due to a lack of emphasis and funding. Funding should never be an excuse for lack of proper monitoring and evaluation of forest management practices. The Confederated Tribes sees monitoring as a high priority item, not as an extra item that may be adequately implemented if funding permits. Responsible management dictates a high quality monitoring system that will evaluate impacts on the natural resources of the forest.

At a minimum, monitoring should include analysis of the following trends or changes in each distinct drainage area where timber harvest and/or livestock grazing is occurring. Components that should be monitored and analyzed are water quantity and flow regimes, water temperatures, composition of fine sediments in streambeds, and condition of riparian areas (bank stability and vegetative quantity/quality). Examples of distinct drainages are Catherine Creek, Big Sheep Creek, Upper Imnaha below the wilderness boundary, Dark Canyon and Sheep Creeks, Meadow Creek, Five Points Creek, Beaver Creek, Fly Creek, Upper North Fork John Day River, Upper Grande Ronde

River, and Joseph Creek. Large areas such as the last two listed should have monitoring in small tributaries and also downstream in the larger order streams for analysis of potential cumulative effects. Monitoring of each basin should factor in variables of diverse timber management techniques and highly harvested tributaries.

Roots, Berries, Medicinal Plants, Cultural and Historic Sites

The Confederated Tribes suggest that all management practices of the Wallowa-Whitman Forest continue to be correlated with the forest archaeologist to determine extent of impacts on special ecological areas containing these resources. Close correlation with the Department of Natural Resources of the Confederated Tribes is also necessary to insure adequate protection. The Confederated Tribes support the development of a core team consisting of Tribal and U.S.F.S. staff to establish a closer working relationship with regards to archaeological and cultural concerns of the tribe. The emphasis of the core team should be to establish and correlate criteria, guidelines and standards to protect the cultural and archaeological resource within Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. It is imperative to understand that roots, berries, medicinal plants, fish, and both big and small game food are an integral part of the religion of the Confederated Tribes and not simply subsistence issuances.

It is important to the members of the Confederated Tribes that they have ample opportunity to gather teepee poles and firewood for subsistence and cultural use. Members of the Confederated Tribes desire to utilize these resources while simultaneously protecting other natural resources of the forest. Consultation with the Department of Natural Resources of the Confederated Tribes concerning this matter is recommended.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much for your comments.

STATEMENT OF J. HERMAN RUBEN, CHAIRMAN, NEZ PERCE TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. RUBEN. Thank you. My name is J. Herman Ruben. I am Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee, the governing body of the Nez Perce Tribe.

Thank you for allowing the Nez Perces to express our concerns and comments in this testimony. The Nez Perce Indian Reservation is located in North Central Idaho, and the central tribal office being in Lapwai, Idaho.

Thank you for allowing the Nez Perce Tribe to present testimony and our deep concerns of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. We are pleased that you will consider our comments as you deliberate on reasoning to come to an important decision that will impact the entire Northwest.

The Nez Perce Tribe is concerned with the management of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. The Nez Perce, prior to making of treaties, had roamed these lands, used these streams and rivers, in the treaty of 1855 the very same lands, streams and rivers were included and were ceded with the treaty of 1863. The uses of this area by the Nez Perce included fishing, hunting, gathering of roots and berries for food, for medicinal, cultural and religious purposes.

Also, there is within this area, numerous campsites that were utilized on a seasonal basis, as well as permanent type of lodging, and the land holds the final resting place of many of our ancestral Nez Perces.

Construction of the Hells Canyon complex of dams destroyed important runs of chinook and steelhead that were the substance of Nez Perce treaty rights. However, spawning areas in the mainstream of the Snake River and its tributaries, such as the Imnaha, still remain and continue to produce fish despite the difficulty our fish have in travelling past eight dams on the Snake and the Columbia.

In fact, fish production efforts to restore upriver runs under the provisions of the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan, the Northwest Power Planning Act and the U.S.-Canada Salmon Interception Treaty, the fisheries management dilemma that Imnaha work is designed to solve is this: natural runs of chinook and steelhead that pass eight dams are difficult to maintain and impossible to rebuild without hatchery supplementation. Yet hatchery supplementation risks the loss of important natural run components because the naturally spawned fish are harvested in mixed stock fisheries along the stronger hatchery components and because of straying and inter-breeding.

Therefore, the Tribes, fishery agencies and the power council are attempting to establish out-planting programs in which naturally spawning fish are captured from their natal streams and spawned.

Their young are then reared in hatcheries and out-planted in the streams so that they can contribute to future naturally spawned population and to harvest.

The only stream where this work is proceeding in a systematic manner is the Imnaha and, during the last two years, we have seen very positive results that hold great promise for the restoration efforts that are under way as a result of recent congressional initiatives.

It would be a disaster and a horrible waste of resources to see this effort destroyed because you let the Forest Service destroy the Imnaha through its forest plans.

The Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is truly at the heart of the Columbia River Systems fishery resources and it requires congressional protection in the manner proposed if the United States is to fulfill its obligations under our treaties.

The habitat of fisheries, both small and big game, must be protected and be allowed to produce and reproduce as it has done for centuries.

The Nez Perce Tribe is very desirous of protecting the cultural and religious sites within this area, including the numerous caves once used by our people. One of which has been determined to be the birthplace of the famous Chief Joseph.

In summary, it is the position of Nez Perce Tribe that the scenic and pristine qualities of this area must be protected, not alone for this genration, but for many more generations to come.

We are appreciative to this Subcommittee for the opportunity to express our concerns and your attention to our testimony. Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much, gentlemen.

The next panel will be Mr. James Monteith, Mr. Will Brown, Mr. John Platt, Ms. Cripe, and the Honorable Jerry Rust.

STATEMENT OF JAMES MONTEITH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OREGON NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL

Mr. MONTEITH. Good morning. I am James Monteith, the Executive Director of the Oregon Natural Resoruces Council, a Statewide organization of about 92 sportsmen and conservation organizations and about 2,000 individual members, speaking today in support of Senate Bill 1803.

I want to welcome you both here to talk about what probably should be called the Grandest Canyon. This is the big one, and this is a place of global significance. I think it is imperative that we keep that in mind today.

We are here in many ways to talk primarily about economics. Within the Northwest our economy is in dramatic transition.

Of course you have heard from those who oppose the bill as well as those who favor the bill who are experienced in this sort of economic downfall that we all are in.

I think it is imperative that the Oregonians keep control of their economic future. The only way to accomplish this is to diversify, stabilize our economy, and that means making decisions today that will move us in that direction.

It may mean making decisions today that are difficult. There is a saying in Oregon that the amenities of yesterday are the commodities of today. And I think what we have heard today from those concerned about timber harvest levels, revenue drop-off, etc., who need to recognize that these are cycles we are going to be experiencing regardless.

The option we have is to make a future for ourselves by making some decisions and maintain that resource base upon which we can diversify the economy.

This summer the Oregon department of Economic Development reported that we have 9,000 new tourism jobs and 1,500 new timber jobs, not counting the lost timber jobs which probably netted out at a negative.

The average timber job is losing value by about $3.00 an hour, almost annually. Those wages are going to continue to drop regardless of what we do about it.

If we want to have an economy that can grow, the economic future of this State depends on the fastest growing components.

Certainly we will always want to have timber.

But tourism, outdoor recreation, fishing, both commercial, sport and Indian fishing, are on the rise very quickly and the trends are obvious.

The issue really is whether we are going to make a decision to enhance and protect those along with timber or whether we are going into the past and try to continue to depend solely on one or two industries which got us where we are today.

Northeast Oregon has a bright future if we can take advantage of it. Hells Canyon, the show case of many other natural resource areas, the Wenaha Tucannon, the Sawtooth, the Eagle Cap.

The integrity of Hells Canyon is absolutely critical if we are to market Northeast Oregon and have this balance of tourism, fishing, timber, outdoor recreation, that will provide a stabilized and long term healthy and prosperous economy.

We will hear today in later testimony about what conservationists and what sportsmen are willing to do in terms of improved road access, improved roads where they exist already, vistors' centers, things which we think we have a responsibility to help in terms of making that diversification of the economy happen, and we are very much willing to do that.

But the key is leaving places like Hells Canyon in tact, leaving those wild lands there so that we can diversify upon that resource base and not simply taking it down with logs through the mill.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Next.

STATEMENT OF WILL H. BROWN

Mr. BROWN. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, my name is Will H. Brown, La Grande. I am retired after 38 years with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. I was Regional Supervisor for the Northeast Region for 27 years and was responsible for fish and wildlife management in the Hells Canyon.

I give this experience only because resource managers employed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife have been denied the right to express their professional opinions by top level elected officials.

I strongly support the full 300,000 acres of wilderness that is proposed by the bill. The existing roads to Hat Point and Dug Bar should be improved. And all other road construction on national forest lands should cease.

Roads are extremely detrimental to water quality and cause severe soil erosion on the steep, unstable soils in the area.

Traffic on roads is a constant source of harassment to all wildlife, but is especially hard on elk because of the large expanses of steep, open ridges with very little timber for escape cover.

Forest Service wildlife research prescribes that 40 percent timber, 60 percent open land balance for elk management.

The Hells Canyon NRA does not have a 40 percent timber cover now.

Therefore, all timber cutting on the NRA federal lands should be halted to preserve what hiding and thermal cover now exists.

Habitat management that is beneficial to elk is also beneficial to most other forms of wilderness loving wildlife.

Some decisions on resource management should be reserved for future generations and only wilderness protection will preserve these resources from constant pressure to exploit them wastefully.

The process that provides for wilderness protection can be modified in the future if a real need for change is desired.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JOHN C. PLATT, PRESIDENT, OREGON WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Mr. PLATT. Senators Hatifield and Packwood, my name is John Platt. I am President of the Oregon Wildlife Federation.

On behalf of our 2,500 members and 25 affiliate clubs and conservation organizations, I would like to support S. 1803 in accord with the resolution that we passed in our January meeting.

In support of our resolution I would like to suggest that recent changes in Congressional policy, very very important values of the Imnaha River, and the important rivers, an important means of rebuilding that are now under way, require certain wilderness area designations, cut restrictions and scenic river designations to implement a policy of non-degradation.

As you well know, Senators, the last ten years has seen a reversal of a policy developed in the '30's that allocated the Upper Columbia, the Snake, to hydro-electricity. Destroying the salmon and steelhead resources of the Payette, the Powder, the Burnt, the Boise, the Weiser, the Owyhee and Malheur Rivers, not to mention 95 percent of the Snake River habitat and the entire upper Columbia behind Chief Joseph Dam.

The Lower Snake River Compensation Plan in 1975, the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act, the Power Act, the Enhancement and Conservation Act, the U.S.-Canada Act, all of those were changes in policy which said we needed to restore the runs.

Recent deliberations by the Power Council indicated that the hydro-electric debt of some five to eight million adult fish is required to satisfy the requirements of the Power Act that says that there was to be restoration to the extent affected by hydro-electric dams.

The HCNRA said the protection and maintenance was an objective of that Act. Nonetheless we don't see the Forest Service carrying out that objective.

We believe the Imnaha is the linchpin, it is the model, it is the heart of the Restoration Act. The Imnaha still contains many of those native fish that Herman Ruben talked about a few minutes ago, not quite as big, but they are still five years old, coming in, they can still weigh up to 35 pounds and even higher. They are a unique strain and they pass dams 16 times on their way out and back to their spawning grounds, as well as 21 different jurisdictions, and they still manage to maintain.

A very unique experiment is going on in the Imnaha right now and that is to take those fish, spawn them and place the eggs—or place the smolts from those adults back into the habitat.

If that works, it will solve a very critical problem that we face in up-river restoration, and that is how to rebuild natural runs without destroying the natural gene strains that managed to get them up that distance.

We believe at the present time wilderness is the way to do that. We believe that in 1984 there were considerations of fishery management designations and those were withdrawn. We are willing to consider those but at this time we haven't seen a fishery management designation that will really protect habitat in the face of timber management.

We are not saying no logging in Hells Canyon. We are simply saying no logging that will degrade salmon and steelhead habitat.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak here and if you have any questions, I will try to answer them.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Platt follows:]

TESTIMONY OF JOHN C. PLATT, PRESIDENT OF THE OREGON WILDLIFE FEDERATION BEFORE THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE CONCERNING S. 1803 AMENDING THE HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION ACT OF 1975 IN LA GRANDE, OREGON ON AUGUST 19, 1986

Mr. Chairman, Senators Hatfield and Packwood, thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter of great importance to the Oregon Wildlife Federation, its 2500 members and its 25 affiliate clubs and conservation organizations. My name is John Platt and I am President of the Oregon Wildlife Federation. For your information, I have included a copy of an OWF resolution passed by our membership in January 1986 that expresses the organizations' formal position in support of the Hells Canyon amendments proposed by Senator Packwood.

In summary, our resolution states OWF's concern that the stated objectives of the HCNRA, particularly the "protection and maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat" and "preservation . . . of all features . . . believed to be biologically unique. . .," are not being carried out by the Forest Service. We recognize that the Act permitted selective cutting of timber and utilization and disposal of other natural resources but only if such use was compatible with the other objectives of the Act. Since the passage of the Act in 1975 and in the context of proposed timber sales to 1991, the fish and wildlife objectives of the Act are, in the minds of Forest Service personnel, apparently subordinate to the logging of Hells Canyon rather than attaining the priority that the 94th Congress intended.

Viewed in isolation, the reversing of priorities for Hells Canyon is reason enough for Oregon's Senators to act, especially in light of your sponsorship of the Hells Canyon legislation in the early 70's. However, the destruction of habitat on Snake River tributaries, particularly the Imnaha, can not be viewed in isolation. Instead, the elimination of spawning and rearing areas requires consideration in the context of a recent though consistent congressional policy in favor of rebuiding and restoring upriver salmon and steelhead runs in order to meet local, national, international and Indian treaty obligations. This congressional policy is a reversal of the policies developed in the 1930's which favored the construction of dams and the relocation of fish populations to the lower Columbia through hatchery mitigation. It is a reversal of policies that destroyed the salmon and steelhead populations of the Payette, the Powder, the Burnt, the Boise, Weiser, Owyhee and Malheur Rivers not to mention 95% of the habitat of the mainstem Snake River and the entire upper Columbia behind Chief Joseph Dam.

The Oregon Wildlife Federation is grateful for your support of the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan developed in 1975, the Northwest Regional Power Act of 1980, the Salmon and Steelhead Enhancement and Conservation Act of 1980, and the Pacific Salmon Treaty Act of 1985 as well as the HCNRA. Your work on these policies created the framework in which restoration of the upper Columbia and Snake River runs can occur within the next ten to twenty years provided that the acts and plans are successfully implemented.

Certainly successful implementation depends upon "protection and maintenance of fish . . . habitat" throughout the upper basin and the HCNRA seems to provide a non-degradation standard that supports implementation even if the Forest Service doesn't see it that way. And obviously they do not. The execution of timber sales on Lick Creek in particular demonstrate a callous disregard for habitat protection by the Forest Service that requires congressional review.

But protection of fishery habitat through these proposed amendments takes on even more importance when you understand that fishery production on the Imnaha is the linchpin, the heart, the model for upriver restoration. The Imnaha is of central importance because it is the key to solving the central dilemma of upriver restoration; the protection of naturally spawning runs behind eight dams and under the pressure of increasing hatchery production.

For the past four years, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife with Lower Snake River Compensation Plan funding has been capturing spring chinook and summer steelhead adults from the Imnaha and its tributaries for spawning, rearing of juveniles and release back to the Imnaha. If the program is successful (and early returns are positive), then the state and federal fishery agencies and and the basin's Indian tribes will have found a way to restore upriver runs that must pass eight dams through supplementation of natural production rather than through massive and expensive hatchery releases with consequent adverse effects upon natural production. However, if you continue to allow the Forest Service to destroy natural habitat, particularly in the Hells Canyon area where the only major experiment is taking place, then your efforts at upriver restoration through congressional policy are doomed and the work of hundreds and the expenditure of millions has been in vain.

The objectives of HCNRA clearly contemplate non-degradation of habitat. Further, the aim and the obligation of restoring upriver runs requires that we protect and maintain the habitat that remains in the Hells Canyon area, particularly when the model for that effort is centered in the HCNRA. In my opinion, non-degradation of fishery habitat implies wilderness designation. Nonetheless, I would be happy to discuss other habitat non-degradation policies provided that, if they are not successful, we return to wilderness. Reliance on wilderness designation rather than habitat criteria for fishery protection was apparently the result of similar discussions during the wilderness debate in 1984. Perhaps this debate needs no rehashing, in light of the manner in which the Forest Service has ignored the non-degradation standard of the HCNRA.

Senator Hatfield and Senator Packwood, the Oregon delegation and particularly Oregon's two senators have devoted tremendous time and effort to reversing the disastrous policy of upriver run destruction. The entire Pacific coast, Oregon, and particularly Northeast Oregon arw on the brink of seeing your efforts bear fruit. Please act on these amendments during this Congress in order to insure that the rebuilding of the Columbia Basin's salmon and steelhead runs proceeds in a consistent and expeditious manner in accordance with the policies of Congress and that of the States of Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

Resolution No. 2

PROTECTION OF THE HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

WHEREAS the Hells Canyon area has long been recognized for its unparalled fish and wildlife habitat and resources, recreational opportunities and scenic wonders, and

WHEREAS in 1975 the Congress of the United States recognized those values by establishing the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA) in order to protect and maintain fish and wildlife habitat, maintain the free flowing nature of the rivers, and conserve the scenic, recreational, wilderness, cultural, scientific and other values, and

WHEREAS Congress specified in the Act that timber harvest would be by selective cutting only, and that it would join mining, grazing and the continuation of existing uses in being allowed only as they are compatible with the purposes of the Act, and

WHEREAS the Forest Service's management plan for the HCNRA allows shelterwood cutting, clearcutting, overgrazing and the development of roads that threaten elk calving grounds and other wildlife habitats, and

WHEREAS the Congress also directed the Forest Service to do wilderness studies, and the Park Service to do a Wild and Scenic River study for the lower 33 miles of the Snake River, and those studies have been completed and submitted to the Congress,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Oregon Wildlife Federation in meeting assembled at Corvallis, Oregon on January 19, 1986 that the following policy be adopted in support of amendments to the HCNRA:

1) the designation of additions to the Hells Canyon Wilderness,
2) the addition of the lower 33 miles to the Snake Wild and Scenic River,
3) the clarification by Congress of timber practices that will be allowed within the HCNRA so that said timber practices further the purposes for which the HCNRA was established, and
4) a maximum annual limit on timber harvest of one million board feet or less limited to areas available for timber harvest and allocated for harvest in the current land use plan.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oregon Wildlife Federation submit this resolution for consideration at the National Wildlife Federation annual meeting, March 1986.

Adopted by the Oregon Wildlife Federation - January 19, 1986

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JERRY RUST

Mr. RUST. Good morning, Senators Hatfield, Packwood. I am Jerry Rust. I am at the courthouse in Lane County Oregon.

Yesterday I took the road from Bend to Ontario, and I recommend that journey for anyone who takes trees in this state for granted.

I am for this bill. I'm for jobs in Oregon. I am also for Senate Bill 1803.

I think the real challenge will be to create replacement jobs and income in the forest by boosting productivity in the already cutover lands with timber stand improvement, thinning more carefully, better planning on these second growth lands.

Second, I think there is really an issue here about creating jobs in tourism. Oregon is in its infancy in developing this tourist economy. We have barely begun to promote this State.

Hells Canyon is one of the premier attractions in Oregon. It is one of Oregon's superlatives, deeper than the Grand Canyon. It is like Crater Lake. It has the potential to lure tourists to Oregon from around the world.

I think the legislation to add wilderness on the Oregon side, classify 33 miles of the Snake as wild and scenic and limit road and logging in the NRA on steep and fragile slopes is a proposal to the goals of a National Recreation Area.

If you will consider a National Park Preserve that will enhance the recreation and appeal to this area even more.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you, Commissioner.

Is Marilyn Cripe present?

If not, then Panel 7 will come forward, please, which is Dale Young, Mr. Dick Haynes, Mr. Steve Anderson, Mr. Doug Lukens, Mr. Carroll Mitchell, Mr. Bob Mason.

You may proceed

STATEMENT OF CARROLL MITCHELL, CHAIRMAN, BAKER COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Mr. MITCHELL. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, I am Carroll Mitchell from Baker, Oregon. I am Chairman of the Baker County Republican Central Committee. Bill Moshofsky, who is Chairman of the Oregon Republicans in the State, is unable to be here, and has asked me to speak and give his statement on his behalf.

I read, this is dated August 19th, 1986, statement opposing proposed expansion of wilderness areas in Eastern Oregon:

> At the 1984 Oregon Republican Convention the delegates approved a platform which included the following position on the land use.
>
> The Oregon Republican Party favors multiple use of the forest and range land and opposes any further wilderness in Oregon. This position reflects continuing concern for jobs and economic stability for the people of Oregon as well as the need to achieve a sensible balance between limited use preservation of publicly owned resources for a small segment of the public and multiple use of such resources for the benefit of all people.
>
> Signed Bill Moshofsky, State Chairman.

I would also like to report to you that the Baker County Central Committee, with no dissenting votes, adopted a resolution also opposing the wilderness addition.

Because of the shortage of time, I will just read a portion, the very final portion of that resolution, which states:

> Now therefore be it resolved that Baker County Republican Central Committee urgently requests, for the well being of Northeast Oregon, the Bill to expand the wilderness of the Hells Canyon Recreation Area and to reduce the allowable timber harvest be withdrawn.
>
> Signed Carroll Mitchell, Chairman, and Elizabeth C. Burton, Secretary. Baker County Republican Central Committee.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF BOB MASON, LA GRANDE-UNION COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. MASON. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, my name is Bob Mason and I am testifying on behalf of the La Grande-Union County Chamber of Commerce.

We want to go on record as being opposed to the Hells Canyon Wilderness expansion.

We believe that this bill would further deteriorate the economic base of Northeast Oregon at a time when the economy has already suffered enough devastation.

We realize that much of the land that surrounds us is owned by the people of the United States of America and decisions that affect that land have to be made with everybody's well being in mind.

That was the intent behind the legislation that made Hells Canyon a multiple use area.

This bill would nullify the intent of that legislation by removing this multiple use land and putting it on the shelf for those privileged few who either have access to horses or the ability to put a pack on their back and march off into an area where only the physically fit can travel. Is that what the majority of the people in the United States want? I doubt it. They want to be able to use and enjoy their land. Enough land has already been set aside for wilderness.

I wonder, if you owned a business in Northeast Oregon, an area beset by tough economic times for the past five years, if you would be upset by some people gathering in a room in Washington, D.C., 3,000 miles away, and deciding on your future for you.

We might only be caretakers of these vast lands that surround us, but shouldn't we have the right to feed and clothe ourselves from its resources?

When you make a decision on this bill, we would ask that you try to put yourself in our shoes, realize the vulnerable condition of our economy and then vote with your heart on this issue. One that could constitute the proverbial straw that breaks the camel's back.

Thank you for your time.

STATEMENT OF DOUG LUKENS, PRESIDENT, BANK OF WALLOWA COUNTY

Mr. Lukens. Senator Hatfield and Senator Packwood, I am Doug Lukens. I am President of the Bank of Wallowa County.

I would like to go on record as being strongly opposed to the addition of this wilderness.

The local economy of Wallowa County is very weak and in a very fragile condition at this time. It is heavily dependent upon agriculture and forest industry. The primary source of economic strength comes from agriculture, forest industries, tourism and hunting. None of these have been strong with agriculture, and forest industries being the weakest.

A good example of how fragile the local economy is dependent upon forest industries, a year ago Wallowa Lake Forest Industries, Incorporated, closed their mill in Joseph. The mill was closed for three months before being reopened by Sequoia Forest Industries.

Shortly after the closure in a one week period of time five businesses failed on the Main Street of Enterprise alone. During the three month period that the mill was down, there were numerous other business failures throughout the county.

The streets of Wallowa County communities are blotted with vacant buildings, the scars left by failed businesses. There are many, many homes for sale, vacant and foreclosed, with no buyers. This is another scar of business failures and the lack of productive jobs. Usually properties cannot even be sold for balances owed against them or assessed value. High taxes and high interest have eaten up all of the equities that people have built up over years of hard work.

We monitor closely our deposits and economic activity for our local area. And during the normal summer period with the mills operating and tourists are coming, normally deposits will rise steadily.

In 1985, with the mill closure, deposits for the area actually went down instead of up as they normally would. This would indicate to us that tourism would perhaps have to double to offset the loss of one of the mills in our area.

There is no way that the addition of this proposed wilderness could possibly offset economic loss of one of the mills if that were caused by this bill.

After almost one year since the mill reopened, the monies lost during the three month closure have not yet been recovered. We cannot risk the loss of any timber related jobs with the current fragile conditions of the local economy.

If we do, we will be the one responsible for putting a lot of hard working, productive people out of work. We will cause more people to lose their homes and businessmen to lose their business and the tax burden on those remaining will go up just to maintain minimal education and service.

National debt and taxes are a grave problem to Oregonians. Oregonians are among the highest taxes people in the United States.

I feel that one of the causes of our inability to provide top education and services, even though we pay a high rate of taxes, is that this disproportionate amount of property owned and controlled by the U.S. Government in our State and especially in the rural counties, such as Wallowa County.

Oregonians are among the highest taxed people in the United States. Reducing timber receipts and moving more land into wilderness will only compound the tax situation of Oregonians. Landowners have already been burdened beyond reason with excessively high property taxes to try to just maintain adequate education and adequate service levels.

Adding to this problem will cause further job losses. Reduction of business profits and further reduction of land values.

Currently many properties cannot even be leased for enough money to cover property taxes.

This bill will also add to the federal deficit and tax problem. The Congress is currently working on a tax reform bill that will supposedly reduce individual taxes by shifting them from individuals to corporations.

But as soon as a program was agreed on, then the next word is that the only way to balance the budget is to raise the taxes, and here we sit, discussing legislation that will only compound the deficit problem.

If you do not work for the government, and you believe that shifting taxes from you as individual to your employer without a reduction in real government spending will save you taxes, you have been misled again.

If your employer's taxes are increased, as this bill will do, then there will be less money available for salaries, jobs, and the current salary problems you are dealing with will only be compounded.

Higher corporate taxes mean less money available for wages, expansion and more problems competing in world markets.

Government employees are the only winners of this tax bill unless there is significant reduction in government spending.

Yet our own Senator is pushing this bill that will cause more taxes to Oregonians, who are already over-taxed, and will add to the federal deficit, which will adversely affect all of us.

High taxes with education and services that are below par are keeping investment and jobs out of Oregon.

We must insist that our elected officials find ways to reduce taxes, spend less, not ways to increase taxes and reduce jobs.

The fact that we are spending taxpayer, and private money, to debate an issue that was supposed to have been put to bed in 1984, seems to show a total lack of fiscal responsibility, which is what we need for our elected officials.

This bill will adversely affect the local economy and very likely will cost many hard working individuals their jobs.

It will increase local taxes if any level of education and services are to be maintained.

Oregon and local taxes are already way out of line, because there is too much federal government ownership and control in our State. While this may only be a small drop in the bucket of federal deficits, it is these small drops that have put each American individual into a position of being heavily in debt and paying high federal taxes and high interest rates because off fiscal policies that have led to the deficit problems we face today.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much.

Thank you, gentlemen.

Panel 8, Mr. Mike Daugherty, Ms. June Bombaci, Mr. Tim Wapato, Mr. Mike Higgins, Mr. Peter Barry, Mr. David Griffiths.

All right. You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF MIKE DAUGHERTY

Mr. **Daugherty**. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, my name is Mike Daugherty. I am a citizen of La Grande with a keen interest in the management of public lands in Northeast Oregon.

Thirteen years ago I was a member of a student research group from Eastern Oregon State College that studied the impact of Senate Bill 2233 in the development of Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

Our studies led us to strongly support the bill.

I never dreamed that I would be again sitting before a hearing chairman, testifying on the need for preserving Hells Canyon.

By law, Hells Canyon has already been set aside in a 660,000 acre preserve for present and future generations.

The Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act signed into law on the eve of 1976 established 67 miles of wild and scenic river with a mandate to study the lower 33 miles for the inclusion into the wild and scenic river system. Formal wilderness study for the wilderness areas not immediately designed as wilderness was required as well as a mandate for the Department of Agriculture, U.S.F.S. to develop a comprehensive management plan.

In reality, the dream that led to establishing Hells Canyon as a special place set aside is rapidly fading.

Section 7 of the NRA Act of 1975 directed the Secretary of Agriculture to administer the area for public outdoor recreation. In accordance with several objectives including, I quote, "conservation of scenic wilderness, cultural, scientific and other values, timber harvesting was allowed by selective cutting only if it was compatible with the provisions of the Act." These provisions seem to be forsaken in the current management plan developed by the Department of Agriculture.

It took the U.S. Forest Service nine years and four attempts to come up with the national management plan. Assistant Secretary of Agriculture arbitrarily altered the proposed plan to allow more areas to be opened for logging and to permit two stage clearcutting that clearly violates the provisions of the original Act.

The impression of the current management direction is that Hells Canyon National Recreation Area will not be noted for its Congressional designation as an area set aside for scenic, wildlife, recreation, and historic values, but will be treated as if it was business as usual in forest land designated for more intensive timber harvest.

I am concerned about the direction land use allocations are taking for Lake Fork, Wildhorse and Lord Flat.

I am afraid we are overlooking the significance of Hells Canyon as an area of national interest. I am afraid the original legislative intent for the area is being lost.

I do not view Senator Packwood's bill as a new wilderness bill. Hells Canyon has already been set aside for over ten years. I see this new bill as a Congressionally designated management plan that addresses the shortcomings and shortsightedness of the Department of Agriculture Management Plan.

I support Senator Packwood's bill, Senate Bill 1803.

I also take exception with the notion that wilderness is a waste of natural resources. As a management strategy, it is a vital part of a true multiple use concept. It took 100 years for the protection of wilderness as wilderness to make sense to Americans. We protected parks for a century, if you count the Yosemite State Preserve established in 1864, before the Wilderness Act of 1964 established the wilderness preservation system.

Aldo Leopold spoke of the need for wilderness for preserving the origins of our cultural inheritance, for recreation, science, and wildlife. Raw wilderness gives definition and meaning to the human enterprise.

Edward Abby stated the open space was the fundamental heritage of America, the freedom of wilderness as being the central purpose of our natural adventure. The values of wilderness are part of our heritage and recognized by our greatest philosophers, poets, writers and naturalists.

I am grateful that as a nation we see the value and necessity of preserving the few remnants of our great natural heritage.

Thank you, Senator, for the opportunity to speak here today.

STATEMENT OF PETER BARRY

Mr. **Barry**. Hello. My name is Peter Barry. I have been a La Grande citizen for 19 years. I have been unemployed since Christmas.

As much as I need a job, I'm not willing to sacrifice one of the few remaining wild areas in America, so I can selfishly obtain money as are some of the local corporations and a few misguided individuals.

I have never had much money, yet have spent several of the happiest weeks of my life wandering around some of the wilderness areas in the West.

It is a myth that only the rich can use the wilderness.

On the contrary, the wealthy are the ones advocating the ruination of everyone's Hells Canyon.

Of all the people that I have met in the wilderness, none are rich folks. The problem is I have met far too many people in the supposed wilderness areas.

Though I seldom walk on the trails, I still encounter people and their impacts almost everywhere. It is hardly wild any more. Those who say there already is enough or too much wilderness are people that have never been.

Every designated wilderness I have visited is heavily impacted and altered by extreme use. The government studies show that use of primitive recreation is going to increase dramatically in the next several decades. Then wilderness will only be in the names of those places, hardly a reality.

Several years ago I walked down Idaho's side of the deepest gorge in America, the big sister of the Grand Canyon, into an incomparable natural wonder, down into Hells Canyon.

Hiking down into this awesome slice in the earth, I marvelled at the solitude and the beauty, the mountain goats and the eagles.

Walking up the Oregon side and past one of the areas that has since been logged—it was one of the most spectacular areas on the whole trip—now it is destroyed.

Are a few money hungry corporations going to destroy the rest of this national treasure? You have the responsibility and privilege to decide. I can't. Neither can these people. I worked on Capitol Hill for a while and I know that political expediency and bargaining comes ahead of the desires of maybe most of the people, especially those unborn.

And I would recommend that both of you go back to the canyon and you will remember why you fought so hard to preserve it and why once agan we have to fight to preserve what's still left of it. Go to one of the already logged timber sales and you will know why we need to finish the job and preserve it for all time.

Thank you very much.

Senator **Hatfield**. Let me once again caution the audience against any demonstrations or responses. You are here as guests of the committee and that happens to be the Senate rule.

Next please.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL J. HIGGINS

Mr. **Higgins**. Senator Packwood and Senator Hatfield, my name is Mike Higgins. I am an owner and manager of my own insurance business in Halfway, Oregon.

I came here today to express my support for Senator Packwood's proposal to expand the Eagle Cap Wilderness to include approximately 300,000 acres in the Hells Canyon area.

For far too long the decisions that have been made regarding our forest lands have been compromised in favor of the forest products industry.

The concerns for profit and growth of business have taken precedence over the most important concern that we all should have, that of living in balance with our environment. I have lived in Eastern Oregon almost my entire life, and like so many of us in this part of the State, have assumed that our forests were being managed in a way that would result in their being here for perpetuity.

It has just been in the last ten years or so that I have begun to realize that this isn't the case at all.

If we continue at our present rate of consumption, future generations, perhaps even my own children, won't be able to enjoy the forests as I do now. The clear mountain streams, abundant wildlife and uncluttered trails will be gone forever, victims of our own greed and short-sightedness, having been replaced by clearcuts, eroded hillsides, and logging roads instead of trails.

A person doesn't have to look very far to see that this kind of prediction is accurate.

As an example, take a ride up in the Corral Creek area above Halfway and witness the exact kind of devastation just described.

Is this the kind of scenario that we want to pass on to succeeding generations?

We are at the point in our existence on this earth where we have no more alternatives.

If we don't start making intelligent decisions regarding our environment now, the situation is going to be irreversible.

It's time that these decisions start being made on the basis of what's best for the continued life of the planet, not on the basis of the timber industry's profit and loss statement. Senator Packwood's proposal to add more acreage to the wilderness is an excellent example of the direction that we have to take. For far too long we have been ignoring the long-range adverse effects of our present forest management practices. Such practices as clearcutting and shelter wood cutting in any area, especially a National Recreation Area, are totally unacceptable and these methods have already proven to be the most detrimental to future growth and reforestation practices.

The continued use of these methods totally ignores the necessity for an ecological balance.

We have all kinds of information available to us, proving that the use of clearcuts and shelter wood cutting has a disastrous impact on even the least ecologically sensitive areas, yet we persist in the use of these methods. Why are we so intent on the destruction of our forests that we can't change direction? I, for one, don't believe we are that blind to reality.

Although it may sound like I am against all future logging, such is not the case.

What I am advocating is, number one, that we live within our means, cut only as much timber per year as we can regenerate.

Number two, use only those methods for future logging that will result in the least possible damage to the ecology of the area that's being logged.

And, three, seize every opportunity to protect those ecologically-sensitive and unique areas for the enjoyment of future generations, such as Hells Canyon.

I would like again to express my total support for any efforts to include the Hells Canyon area in wilderness.

Surely the deepest gorge in the world deserves the most extensive protection possible, protection that would indeed result in the enjoyment of this area for many generations to come.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF DAVID E. GRIFFITHS, JR.

Mr. **Griffiths**. Honorable Senators, it would appear that I am the old man out on this panel. I oppose the bill.

My name is David E. Griffiths, Jr. I have no title, save possible peon.

Senator **Hatfield**. It must be a logistical problem. I thought we had compatible panels.

Mr. **Griffiths**. That's all right. We won't go to fisticuffs here, I don't believe.

I oppose the wilderness designation on the basic reason that I believe wilderness management to be the equivalent of zero management. And zero management preserves nothing.

The basic idea of wilderness area is flawed. You allow fires to run wild on wilderness areas and only when the fire approaches the border is the fire controlled.

You have almost a hundred of these particular examples going on right now in Wallowa and in Baker Counties.

By wilderness management, you advocate disease in trees, you advocate insect destruction, and we have not far to go to witness 400,000 acres of beetle kill. We have only to go 30 miles south to see the devastation of spruce bud worm to the stands of fir in the Catherine Creek area near a ranch that I have leased. You have not far to go to find destruction of the lodge pole.

And these are advocated by the people who have pushed their philosophy on the Forest Service and not allowed it to manage wisely. By their preservation moves, they believe that they will keep the stands of pine and fir for their future generations, and they will chain themselves to a tree to avoid having a logger cut it down. Yet they will stand several feet away and watch it be eaten by insects or see the root rot take over and the wind knock the tree down or have the beautiful yellow pine trees, which I can appreciate as I have been to Hat Point and used the wilderness area extensively, burn to ashes, and then not allow the Forest Service to come in and re-forest because it's not the natural way.

To allow such a tragedy will limit the amount of old growth available to our future generations, and if the fires happen to start in the middle of the area and burn through the old growth stands, how many generations does it take to reestablish an old growth Ponderosa Pine?

Do they grow in ten years? Hardly. My grandchildren won't see it. Possibly my great grandchildren.

The flaw is obvious, irregardless of the testimony obtained here today. Thinking people who enter into our national forest lands and observe what is around them and occurring, will see that the knee jerk reaction of wilderness area as a Band-Aid effort to control logging is not the answer.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much.

Is Ms. June Bombaci or Mr. Tim Wapato here? If not, thank you, gentlemen.

Panel 9. Mr. Ralph Peinecke, Mr. Rob Ellingson, Mr. John Reed and Mr. Bob Beaubier. May we have order?

There has been a request that we announce the following request, that the truckers and the others in the parade should report to the parade area, whatever that means.

All right. Please proceed, gentlemen.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT P. ELLINGSON III, VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER, ELLINGSON LUMBER CO.

Mr. **Ellingson**. I would like to welcome you to Eastern Oregon. It is good to see you again. I appreciate the opportunity to be able to speak with you concerning a matter of grave importance to our company and to the communities in Baker County.

My name is Rob Ellingson. I am general manager of Ellingson Lumber Company in Baker, Oregon, and I speaking in opposition to the wilderness bill.

Our corporation is a family corporation. We have been in business for almost 95 years. About half of that in Eastern Oregon.

At one time we operated four sawmills and a plywood plant, but have now reduced our operation to a single sawmill and small particle board plant, both located in Baker.

We cut the majority of our timber on Wallowa Whitman National Forest. We are the largest private employer in Baker County. We have almost 200 employees. We have a payroll of $5.8 million, not including our logging, hauling, and related road building contractors. Our operations contribute about 14 million dollars to the local economies of Grant, Union and Baker Counties on an annual basis.

Ninety percent of the logs we utilize are harvested from national forest lands, with the majority obtained from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. We also conduct logging operations on the Malheur National Forest, when necessary.

Last year we went through an extensive remodeling in our sawmill. We invested four million dollars, most of which was borrowed money, some of the financing was assisted through the help of Senators Hatfield and Packwood.

We assessed the forest, could see the dwindling amount of pine that was being put up in the sale program and made an honest attempt to diversify so that we could process the lower valued and the smaller species. This was a substantial investment on our part. We have now reduced our reliance on Pondarosa Pine to about 50 percent rather than 100 as we were before. Even so, we are facing a timber shortage on the Wallowa-Whitman.

In the fiscal year 1985 the Forest Service in a proposed sale program of 140 to 150 million board feet. They only managed to sell 104 million board feet. They offered an additional 18 million board feet that no one would bid on. The sales were so poorly prepared or over-valued, that they could not obtain a bid on any of that timber.

We are facing much of the same situation in this fiscal year. We have a proposed sale program of 174 million board feet. To date they have only sold 93 million board feet. They have six weeks left in the fiscal year in which to meet their goal.

As this was last year, they offered 20 million feet in which they could not get anyone to bid, because of the over-valued timber or impractical and unnecessary logging methods. We have just been forced to do a wage reduction for our employees. That is not a pleasant situation, believe me. But it's necessary.

We have Canadian imports which have a drastic effect on or ability to sell our products, especially that resulting from the associated species which we just made an attempt to convert to. I really feel the Wallowa-Whitman has enough wilderness. It has the largest wilderness area in the State of Oregon. It also has more wilderness than any other forest in Region 6.

I really urge you Senators to make your decisions on scientific facts and knowledge, rather than emotional propaganda. I am also concerned about wildlife but I really feel that wildlife can go hand in hand with timber management, if it is done correctly.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Ellingson follows:]

August 19, 1986

Statement of Robert P. Ellingson, III, Vice President and
General Manager, Ellingson Lumber Co., before Senators
Hatfield and Packwood regarding S1803, Senator Packwood's
Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill.

I would like to welcome you both to Eastern Oregon and I appreciate the opportunity to be able to speak with you concerning a matter of grave importance to our company and to the communities in Baker County.

Our family has been in the lumber business for 95 years, originally in Wisconsin, but moving to Oregon in the early 1930's. At one time we operated four sawmills and a plywood plant, but have now reduced our operation to a single sawmill and small particleboard plant, both located in Baker.

We are the largest private employer in Baker County, with 200 employees. Our direct payroll is $5.8 million, not including our logging, hauling, and related road building contractors. Our operations contribute over $14 million annually towards the economies of Baker, Union, and Grant counties.

Ninety percent of the logs we utilize are harvested from national forest lands, with the majority obtained from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. We also conduct logging operations on the Malheur National Forest when necessary.

We have just completed a $4 million remodeling project in our sawmill. This was done primarily so that we could more efficiently process the associated species of Douglas

Fir, Western Larch, White Fir, and Engelmann Spruce. We still require Ponderosa Pine to sustain a profitable operation; however, we have reduced our annual requirements of this specie by almost 50 percent. We feel that we have made a substantial investment to modernize our operations so as to adapt them to the available resource.

We have been facing a timber shortage for the past few years. Last year (FY85) the Wallowa-Whitman had a proposed saw timber sale program of around 145 million board feet (MMBF). They only managed to sell 104 MMBF and offered an additional 18 MMBF that no one would bid on. This year they planned to sell 174 MMBF but to date have only sold 95 MMBF. As was the case last year, they have again offered 20 MMBF that no one would bid on. They failed to receive bids because the sales are over-valued or contain expensive logging requirements that are not necessary or practical.

The proposed alternative for the new Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan reduces the plan sale volume ten percent below the levels proposed for the last five years. It also reduces the volume of Ponderosa Pine to be sold by 40 percent. Their estimates show a loss of 200 jobs as a result of the new plan. Our mills cannot stand to lose any more of our available saw timber and the communities cannot affort the resulting loss of any more jobs.

We have just been forced to initiate a wage reduction for all of our employees. This is never a pleasant situation.

Demand is high for our products, yet with the Canadian imports, we cannot realize a satisfactory sales figure. The entire economic situation in Northeastern Oregon is extremely fragile and cannot endure any additional turmoil.

The Wallowa-Whitman National Forest has the largest wilderness area in the state of Oregon and the largest amount of wilderness of any forest in Region 6. We have more than an adequate amount of wilderness at the present time. Future land allocations need to be made on a more realistic basis, utilizing facts and scientific knowledge rather than emotional opinions.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to respond and urge you to abandon any further pursuit of wilderness on any part of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

Senator HATFIELD. Next speaker.

STATEMENT OF JOHN REED, REGIONAL MANAGER, NORTHEAST OREGON REGION, BOISE CASCADE CORP.

Mr. REED. Good morning, Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood. My name is John Reed and I am the Regional Manager for Boise Cascade here in the Northeast Oregon Region.

We own and manage 310,000 acres of timberland here and are conscientiously and professionally managing it on a sustained-yield basis.

To maintain our operations and support the 1,250 jobs that we provide here for direct employees and contractors, we also rely on federal forest land. Our federal purchases account for roughly 60 to 70 percent of our annual wood supply and provide some 6,600,000 per year in receipts to the government in forms of stumpage payments.

Our total annual harvest from both our fee lands and the federal forests amount to some 165 million board feet. The bulk of our needs is for Ponderosa Pine. Two of our mills operate solely on that species, with a large percentage of that timber coming from the north end of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

Historically, there have been good inventories of Ponderosa Pine there. In fact, prior to 1975 the Forest Service sold an average of about 17 million board feet annually from the area now encompassed by the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. Most of that volume was pine, although the harvest mix has varied from time to time to facilitate removal of trees destroyed by natural disaster.

Since 1975 Forest Service sales from what is now the Hells Canyon NRA have declined to an average of 6.3 million board feet per year.

The current harvest program for those lands allows an annual cut of seven million board feet.

The drastic reduction to only one million board feet of unregulated volume mandated in the proposed Packwood wilderness bill would have a serious impact on the timber industry and its dependent employees and contractors.

In itself, this drop of six million board feet could leave companies such as Boise Cascade timber-short.

Unfortunately, even further harvest reductions would be created if this bill passes.

Wilderness created outside the present NRA by this legislation would reduce the volume by approximately another two million board feet per year.

In turn, the effect of reducing the total land base upon which the trees are harvested in this region would reduce timber removals on the total Wallowa-Whitman National Forest by another four to six million board feet annually.

Consequently, this bill would diminish the annual allowable cut on the Wallowa-Whitman by a total of 12 to 14 million board feet annually.

How significant this reduction would be, bare in mind it would be about the same volume of public timber needed to operate our Joseph or our La Grande sawmills.

Senator Hatfield, you said at the Oregon wilderness hearing in Bend, Oregon, that some kind of land classification is needed somewhere between exaggerated extremes of lockup and the chainsaw.

Even though we do not fully agree with all the aspects of the present HCNRA Comprehensive Management Plan, we feel that the current designation is such a compromise between full commodity use and wilderness.

The current Hells Canyon National Wilderness Area designation also provides for both environmental care and community stability.

The first point, the area within the present NRA boundary in Oregon has produced 339 million board feet of timber since 1956.

After 30 years of timber harvesting and road building the fact that we are still debating the merits of including this area into wilderness area stands as proof of the environmental soundness of multiple use forest management.

The second point, community stability requires business stability, and business stability requires a stable resource base.

This region has ample wilderness now. It is badly in need of the developed recreation for which the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is currently managed.

The existing diversity of land uses is a sensible approach to the economic well-being of our local communities.

The proposed wilderness addition is unnecessary and unproductive.

I have attached additional written testimony to these comments.

Thank you.

[Attachments follow:]

Boise Cascade opposes SB 1803, the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Conservation Act of 1985 and requests that this bill be dropped from further consideration based on the following comments.

1. Legal Requirements Met Prior to SB 1803.

   Public Law 94-199, the Hells Canyon National Recreation Act, directed the U.S. Forest Service to study three specific areas for wilderness designation. In addition, the U.S. Forest Service was directed by RARE II to study all roadless areas for wilderness. Both of these directives were met in the Hells Canyon Environmental Impact Statement where the Forest Service recommended one wilderness study area and two roadless areas for wilderness.

   Senator Hatfield included the recommendations of the U.S. Forest Service in his 1984 Oregon Wilderness Bill, thus fulfilling the directives set by the original HCNRA Act and RARE II. The following quote from the senate report on the 1984 Oregon Wilderness Act sums up the Congressional intent.

   > "The Committee notes that the designation of these wilderness areas as wilderness satisfies the requirements of wilderness study as directed by P.L. 94-199. The Committee also expects the management of all other roadless areas included in P.L. 94-199 to be managed according to the direction provided within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Comprehensive Management Plan."

   The issue of wilderness designation was thoroughly addressed and resolved in 1984 by the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984.

2. Adequate Wilderness Acreage Currently Designated.

   There are currently 719,265 acres designated as wilderness in Northeast Oregon. There are an additional 84,990 acres in Idaho and 111,052 acres in Washington which adjoin Northeast Oregon wilderness areas. (Exhibit A)

   Within Wallowa County alone, there are 416,596 acres of wilderness. That represents 36.5% of all national forest lands in the county. Additionally, there are 351,122 acres in the NRA in Wallowa County. Therefore, 67% of all national forest lands in Wallowa County have restricted use regulations from these designations.

3. Wilderness Useage Decline.

   The trends for wilderness use in Northeast Oregon are static or declining. The current capacity of wilderness on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest exceeds projected demand in the year 2030 by 175% (Pg. III-58, Wallowa-Whitman DEIS, 1986) and these demand projections are based on very unrealistic population growth projections according to the Oregon State Economist, Ann Nolan Hanus.

Studies have shown that future outdoor recreation use demand may be quite a lot less in the future. This is because of the increasing age of our national population, increased travel costs and reduced personal income. Participation in physical wilderness activities such as backpacking and riding horses is projected to decline. (USDA Gen. Tech. Rep. WO-2, Mar., 1977).

Use of Northeast Oregon wilderness areas is declining due to its distance from population centers and decline of the local population. Baker, Wallowa, Union counties have all had a net outward migration of population from 1980-1985 (Center for Population Research & Census, PSU, Dec., 1985).

4. Area Does Not Require Wilderness Designation.

The timber industry has been harvesting timber from the HCNRA since the mid-1950's. From 1956 until 1985, we have recorded the sale of 339 million board feet of timber(Exhibit B). We feel that a large body of testimony will be offered to the affect of how unique, beautiful, primitive, spectacular, unspoiled, etc. this particular area is and how it should be preserved for our children and our children's children and, frankly, we concur with much of their testimony. We think this is testimony that strengthens the argument in favor of multiple use and timber management.

5. Areas Do Not Qualify For Wilderness.

A large portion of the proposed wilderness has been thoroughly roaded during past timber harvesting programs and grazing management activities. The specific areas include the Lords Flat-Somers Point Plateau, Cold Springs Ridge and the Lake Fork area. These areas have been utilized for timber management and multiple-use recreation in the past and certainly are not wilderness candidates now. They have been considered for wilderness and released by the U.S. Forest Service under the regulations of Public Law 94-199 RARE II and the 1984 Oregon Wilderness Bill.

6. Timber Harvest Reductions and Statutory Cap.

The proposed legislation will reduce the annual allowable harvest from 5-9 MMBF per year as specified in the CMP to 200,000 cubic feet (1 MMBF) per year. This is a 6 MMBF reduction per year.

The bill's reduced cap from the current level of 7 million board feet to only 200,000 cubic feet (or 1 million board feet) is unduly severe. In addition, it applies to all types of harvests including firewood, post and pole wood and sawtimber. This seems designed to put the various categories of wood users at odds with one another in that they would be forced to unnecessarily compete with one another for the

1 million board feet. The fact is, firewood and sawtimber are not conflicting uses of the forest resource because different wood is used for each.

- The reduced cap would be a fixed annual limit and would undoubtedly mean that large amounts of timber damaged by fire, wind storms, disease or insect epidemics could not be salvaged as needed, but instead would be left to rot in the forest. This is irresponsible forest management and neglects societal needs.

Adding wilderness designations outside the existing NRA boundaries will reduce the harvest volumes by 2 million board feet/year.

A weakness of the proposal is that it also calls for any timber harvest to be "unregulated." This means there is no requirement -- and, therefore, no assurance -- that timber offerings would be made annually. This is an unacceptable departure from the established national forest harvest program.

By unregulating the NRA harvest in addition to the reductions cited above will trigger an allowable cut effect on the remaining Wallowa-Whitman lands. This will reduce Wallowa-Whitman harvest by an additional 4.0 to 6.0 MMBF (estimated).

Cumulatively SB 1803 will reduce annual timber harvest on The Wallowa-Whitman between 13.0 and 15.0 MMBF. This is nearly the total volume used by one sawmill.

7. Job Loss.

The loss of 13-15 MMBF annually will result in the loss of 213-267 jobs in Northeast Oregon. The economic loss of this magnitude is totally unacceptable.

8. Loss of County Receipts.

The loss of 13-15 MMBF annually will result in reduced payments to counties for schools and county road programs. This money will have to be made up by the rest of the county taxpayers.

9. Compatibility of Multiple-Use Management and Other Resource Values.

The HCNRA should be managed for full multiple-use including timber harvest, grazing, mining, hunting and developed and dispersed recreation. These uses are certainly compatible and this type of management will allow the HCNRA to provide the most benefit to the most people.

Recently, the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest staff wildlife biologist (Rod Miller) expressed his interest in increased logging on Lords Flat to improve wildlife habitat. This is certainly an expression of the possible compatibility and even mutual benefit of multiple use.

The past management practices have not degraded water quality and natural riparian habitat, thus ensuring the protection of the Snake River.

EXHIBIT A

WILDERNESS -- OREGON ONLY

Umatilla National Forest	
Wenaha Tucannon	66,417
North Fork Umatilla	20,200
North Fork John Day	106,787
TOTAL	193,404
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest	
Eagle Cap	361,446*
Hells Canyon	129,003
North Fork John Day	15,509
Monument Rock	7,283
TOTAL	513,241
Malheur	
Monument Rock	12,620
TOTALS	719,265

*This acreage is 345,915 based on USFS TRI records but the 361,446 is official at this time.

WILDERNESS ACRES - BLUE MOUNTAIN TIMBER SHED - AUGUST, 1986

WALLOWA, BAKER, UNION, UMATILLA, GRANT COUNTIES

Umatilla National Forest	Acres
Wenaha-Tucannon	177,469
North Fork Umatilla	20,200
North Fork John Day	106,787
TOTAL	304,456
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest	
Eagle Cap	361,446*
Hells Canyon	129,003
North Fork John Day	15,509
Monument Rock	7,283
TOTAL	513,241
Malheur National Forest	
Monument Rock	12,620
TOTALS	830,317

***This acreage is 345,915 based on USFS TRI records but the 361,446 is official at this time.**

WILDERNESS ACRES -- AUGUST, 1986

Umatilla National Forest	Acres
Wenaha-Tucannon (Ore. & Wa.)	177,469
North Fork Umatilla	20,200
North Fork John Day	106,787
TOTAL	304,456
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest	
Eagle Cap	361,446*
Hells Canyon (Ore. & Idaho)	213,993
North Fork John Day	15,509
Monument Rock	7,283
TOTAL	598,231
Malheur National Forest	
Monument Rock	12,620
TOTALS	915,307

---

*This acreage is 345,915 based on USFS TRI records, but the 361,446 is official at this time.

Exhibit B

SUMMARY OF TIMBER VOLUME SOLD WITHIN THE HELLS CANYON NRA

BY FIVE YEAR PERIODS

Period	Total Volume Sold (MBF)	Average per Year (MBF)
1956 - 1960	32,639	6,528
1961 - 1965	64,113	12,823
1966 - 1970	106,840	21,368
1971 - 1975	73,106	14,621
1976 - 1980	25,852	5,170
1981 - 1985	36,155	7,231
TOTAL	338,705	

STATEMENT OF RALPH PEINECKE, VICE PRESIDENT, TIMBERLAND RESOURCE, BOISE CASCADE CORP.

Mr. PEINECKE. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, my name is Ralph Peinecke.

I am Vice President of Timberland Resource for Boise Cascade Corporation, and on behalf of Boise Cascade I would like to express our appreciation for this opportunity to comment on the proposed Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill.

Since I must be brief, I will come right to the point. Boise Cascade strongly opposes this Bill for two primary reasons.

First, it would be counter-productive for this region's many forest users to put even more of the multiple use forest into single use classification.

Wilderness is used by a comparatively small part of the overall population, and there is already a vast amount of it in this area. With all of the wilderness additions of recent years, nearly 600,000 areas or 24 percent of the Wallowa-Whitman is already in wilderness.

Another 16 percent of Wallowa-Whitman is situated within the current NRA and already subject to its restrictions. Continued shrinkage of the region's multiple use forest is unnecessary and unproductive and should be dropped from consideration. It is time finally to draw the line.

Second, the bill would be extremely detrimental to a region's economy.

As John Reed has testified, it would severely hamper Boise Cascade's ability to operate in this region. It would limit our ability to provide jobs, payrolls and other economic benefits to the local communities. It could also increase the tax burden on individuals to offset the revenues lost from industry.

Mr. Chairman, Boise Cascade likes doing business here. We have been a part of this area for some 27 years now and we pride ourselves on the quality of our people and our products. Our foresters demonstrate a high level of environmental concern in how we manage our timber lands. Our large investment in our mills, equipment and land holdings reflect our intent to be a long term part of these communities.

But the fact is, we cannot continue to operate at current levels if we are forced into an artificial shortage of timber due to unneeded lockups of the forest resource.

It is difficult to be precise about the number of jobs associated with our industry that will be lost if the Hells Canyon Bill passes. Using a U.S. Forest Service economic model, the calculation that equates one million board feet of timber to 17.8 jobs, we can anticipate a loss of between 213 and 267 jobs in the local area within Boise Cascade or other companies.

It also must be mentioned that the timing of such a measure is especially poor. It comes at a time when the Forest Service is proposing significant reductions in timber offerings on the Wallowa-Whitman through the national forest planning process.

In our view the preferred alternative of their draft plan would cause a 62 percent reduction in the Pondarosa Pine harvest. The consequences of such an action would be extremely harmful to the region's economy. And in fact such a proposal is highly unnecessary from a forest management standpoint.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much, sir. The rest of your statement will be placed in the record.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT J. BEAUBIER, FORESTER, SEQUOIA FOREST INDUSTRIES

Mr. **Beaubier**. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, my name is Robert Beaubier. I am a forester for Sequoia Forest Industries, formerly Wallowa Lake Forestry Industries.

I strongly oppose Senator Packwood's bill to add approximately 300,000 acres of wilderness in and adjacent to the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

This addition would put in excess of 35 percent of Wallowa County in wilderness and 64 percent of the national forest land in Wallowa County would be in wilderness.

Wallowa County already has enough wilderness and doesn't need any more added to the existing wilderness.

Wallowa Lake Forest Industries, now Sequoia Forest Industries, in the past five years, has annually received 20 to 25 percent of the logs milled from the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. The majority of this volume has been from salvage sales which were the result of winter wind storms and heavy snow damage.

Without this volume annually from the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, it would be very difficult for Sequoia Forest Industries to obtain enough raw material to stay in business.

If Sequoia Forest Industries is forced to shut down because of lack of raw material, this means approximately 65 jobs will be lost in the Joseph, Enterprise area directly associated with the milling and additional log jobs.

The loss of these jobs will certainly have an adverse affect on local businesses, the local hospital and the local schools.

Wallowa County can ill afford any loss of its tax base and would have to drastically curtail some services now offered.

Recreation cannot fill the void that would be created by this loss. The demand is not present nor will it be present in the foreseeable future.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much.

All right. The next panel is panel No. 10, Mr. Ric Bailey, Mr. Michael Houck, Mr. Dick Hentze, Ms. Stanlynn Daugherty.

After this panel, in consideration for the hardest working person in the room, namely, the reporter, we will take a five minute break.

You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF RIC BAILEY, WALLOWA RESOURCE COUNCIL

Mr. **Bailey**. Thank you, Senator.

My name is Ric Bailey and I am representing the Wallowa Resource Council today.

We support S. 1803. We think it is absolutely necessary to maintain the integrity of one of America's most outstanding natural resources.

One of the things that has been disregarded in some of the testimony today is that we are dealing with a National Recreation Area. And there is absolutely no question that in 1975 Congress recognized this area as being special, deserving of special management intention.

The reason that we support this bill is because it's not getting that special management attention.

The only difference between the Hells Canyon NRA and intensively managed timber areas is a sign at the beginning of the entry at the area that says "Entering the NRA." There is nothing significantly different about the management at all. They are clearcutting in the NRA. Right now they are clearcutting in the NRA. This summer they have clearcut in the NRA.

And I think it is obvious that the intent of the Act, saying that selective cutting was going to be the timber management method, that clearcutting would not be done.

Clearcutting has been done in three different timber sales.

I would also like to point out that we have documented fish and wildlife habitat degradation, destruction of cultural resources, degradation of recreation.

Essentially the NRA recreation roads are the same roads that are used for log hauling. We have got competition between log trucks and recreationists. We have had recreation roads and campgrounds closed for logs use. We have also documented other resource damage in the testimony we have presented, which is extensive.

I think it is also pertinent to point out that of all the other National Recreation Areas in the West, none harvest over a million board feet a year.

I think one example that I might cite is the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in Idaho which contains nearly twice the amount of commercial forest land as does the Hells Canyon NRA and yet has a harvest, an annual harvest count of one million board feet. And I think that's a significant point.

We don't really have a National Recreation Area here because the emphasis is on timber management, far exceeds other national recreation areas in regards to timber harvest levels. I think ultimately the question here is change. Like I said, we are dealing with a National Recreation Area, not a tree farm.

Why would we want to change something which has for so long provided so much for so many people?

There is no reason to change it. It is fine right now. And I think that that is really the crux of our belief, is that we have got something that's good right now, let's leave it along, let's maintain the traditional uses and values of the area.

And, Senator Packwood, thank you for introducing this bill and for your continued support for keeping Hells Canyon intact.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Bailey follows:]

TESTIMONY OF RIC BAILEY
FOR
THE WALLOWA RESOURCE COUNCIL

I am Ric Bailey, a resident of Joseph, Oregon. My line of work is long-haul trucking. I represent the Wallowa Resource Council, a group of about 60 Wallowa County citizens concerned with conservation, and natural resource issues in Wallowa County.

I am honored to have this opportunity to testify on such a critical issue before two of the most influential and dedicated legislators the State of Oregon has ever had.

S1803 is one of the most important pieces of legislation ever considered in Oregon, and I salute Senator Packwood for his commitment and foresight, to never abandon his efforts to fully preserve one of America's most unique and spectacular natural resources.

What makes this legislation so critical is the question of whether we will allow the cherished areas of critical concern, such as the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA), places that congress has in the past deemed deserving of special conservation measures and special management attention, to be relegated to resource extraction and alteration. Impending through current Forest Service management is the liquidation of the primary foundation of the ecological integrity of the Hells Canyon NRA.

The final determination on future management emphasis in the Hells Canyon NRA may well be the yardstick by which coming generations measure the scope of our foresight and depth of our morality. Our concern for ideals and concepts beyond the avenues of commodities and land management must ascend to a new maturity, and the fashion of our economic endevours must evolve beyond tired tradition. When comparing the barely-perceptible reduction in timber base to the opportunity of maintaining a quality base for promoting recreation-based tourism, there can be no economic losses through this legislation, only gains.

In this testimony, we have detailed reasons for our support of S1803 based on the following points:

1. Current management of the Hells Canyon NRA is destructive to the physical and intrinsic values of the area. It does not in any way pursue the intent, nor the clear directives of P.L. 94-199, the Hells Canyon NRA Act.

2. Current management is not in line with management practices in other National Recreation Areas. After contacting administrators of NRA's throughout the west, we have determined that only one other NRA harvests timber on a regular basis. (See enclosed correspondance.) That is the Sawtooth NRA. Their maximum annual harvest is 1 million board feet, exactly the amount which could be cut in Hells Canyon NRA under S1803. The Sawtooth NRA is larger than the Hells Canyon NRA, and

contains nearly twice the amount of commercial forest land.

3. S1803 will finally resolve management controversies in the Hells Canyon NRA by offering a more complete protection of the area.

4. Our reviews of the timber supply issue have determined that S1803 will not adversely effect the local timber economy of Northeast Oregon, but will maintain a viable and attractive resource with which the Wallowa County Economy can realize new income opportunities through recreation-based tourism.

5. S1803 will maintain the traditional uses and values of the Hells Canyon NRA.

We have detailed instances of mismanagement and have illustrated a management emphasis so slanted toward timber extraction that a pall has been cast upon the very concept of a National Recreation Area.

The grief of irreplacable loss is a burden difficult to bear: the loss of a place thought to be preserved intact forever. 10 years, 8 months, and 19 days ago, America celebrated the establishment of the Hells Canyon NRA, the supposed eternal protection of this, one of the most asthetically and ecologically unique places on Earth. But corrupt reality has turned the face of beauty into an imperiled battleground of confused policy and misrepresented doctrine.

We know the clear objectives of P.L. 94-199. The Hells Canyon NRA was established to protect a wide array of resources and intrinsic values, not to be a timber reservoir. The question involved in this legislation is change; but the change involved is not that of an alteration or reduction of resource base for extraction. The change is the subversion of clear statute, and the alteration of a place unique and special beyond description. S1803 will not change or alter anything, it will prevent destructive change.

One need not be a professional resource analyst to recognize those special things which exist in the Hells Canyon NRA. Simply to experience the magic that is there is enough to dispell the notion of change.

We, as stewards of this great creation, do not have the wisdom to comprehend its purpose or far-reaching value. We have only the perception to contemplate it. But we do have the power to manipulate and enslave it. Yet we also have the power to respect it, and exempt it from our own brief interests in an economic sense, and from our cataclysmic probings. By the choices we make today, so shall our wisdom be measured.

Why should we seek to change that which unchanged provides so much for so many? Hells Canyon is not deathless, and dying will take a part of us with it. An irreplacable link to our past, from which we can shape the future; a ground of illumination through learning, and teaching of those things misunderstood, or unknown to mankind.

Once we tame and diminish the forests of the Hells Canyon NRA, how can we replace them? What can we offer, or create to replace what will be lost? What some interests deem necessary to extract from this place is availiable elsewhere, but there is no other Hells Canyon, and once changed and diminished, it is lost forever.

The Hells Canyon NRA contains pages of history unmanipulated, where westward expansion and the native cultures combine in a historic blend of pioneer spirit and Indian pride.

In the beginning there was Lakota, and Nee-Me-Poo, "The People." The white man named them "Nez Perce." They resided in a land of wonder. A land harsh but generous, and awesome. And though they recognized no right to ownership of the land, the Hells Canyon Country was with them, and they were with it.

In 1877 came the settlers, and the onset of the white man's reign. The Hells Canyon Country confounded the farmers, and tested the grit and fortitude of the ranchers and miners, and it drove most of them out. But still, though it defied them, those that remained claimed the land; Hells Canyon was theirs.

Still more whites came, each staking a claim of their own, each claiming ownership with pride: the power companies said it was theirs; use of the resource for the good of progress and industry. The recreationists said it was theirs, that they should lay claim to keep it as it was. Thus also spoke the fishermen and hunters.

And the ranchers reasserted, and the loggers and timber companies said it was theirs, and people pushed and pulled, bickered and fought. And all the while the sun shone, the storms came and fled, and calm harmony, for the most part, sustained in the Hells Canyon Country like a beating heart beneath the innumerable stars.

Though the power of man has neared its zenith, and Hells Canyon is at the mercy of such power, the matter of ownership shall never be resolved, though it has been fated that the final doom is at the mercy of our own laws and judgements.

For Hells Canyon may be claimed, in the superficial manner that man devises to distribute his power and domination, but it can never be owned. And any application of justice, seen as it were from a microsecond in geologic time, sees naught but a shadow, the brief deeds of men set against the majesty of the Earth, all enduring.

But in the manner of human justice, and simple morality that we might bestow upon our home, the ground of our being, the thoughts of creator and sculptings of creation, any respect for innocence or for values immeasurable, and purpose beyond our pursuits, the giving of freedom shall be the mark of our small place in time.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL C. HOUCK, PORTLAND AUDUBON SOCIETY

Mr. HOUCK. Senators Hatfield, Packwood, my name is Michael C. Houck. I am here today on behalf of the Audubon Society of Portland, a 5,000 member chapter of the National Audubon Society to offer our support for the legislation to further protect the outstanding wildlife botanical, cultural and recreational values of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

These aims can be accomplished through the provisions of S. 1803 to designate additional wildnerness areas, designate the lower 34 miles of the Snake River as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and establish limits on the level of the timber harvest in the NRA.

These provisions have also been endorsed by the Oregon Audubon Council which is comprised of twelve chapters throughout the State of Oregon representing approximately 10,000 Oregonians.

Our primary conservation focus is on wildlife and wildlife habitat. Both game and non-game wildlife and the forest habitats, riparian areas and snags are conservation issues that we address through a variety of educational, administrative and legal means.

We have spent a considerable amount of time in the past few years attempting to achieve better consideration of wildlife and habitat values in implementation of the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

I am consistently told by private timber interests, the Department of Forestry and Board of Forestry, that we cannot expect much consideration for these resources on private and State-owned lands, since they should be adequately provided for on lands managed by the Federal Government.

Unfortunately, we have found that in practice protection of fish and wildlife habitat on Federal lands is tenuous at best. Failure to adequately recognize values other than timber and grazing, coupled with unrealistic expectations about how much timber national forest lands can produce, often leads to forest management that clearcuts riparian areas, fells snags and decimates old growth forests.

We have been forced to conclude that in most cases the only areas of adequate size for a full complement of plant and animal diversity will be maintained are in designated wilderness.

Very little of the existing wilderness in the Hells Canyon NRA is forested and if this critical component of the NRA ecosystem is to be maintained, the additional wilderness designation in S. 1803 will be necessary.

The elevation range within North America's deepest gorge combined with variations in soil, slope and the availability of water provide for an outstanding biological richness. Forested draws and plateaus contrast with grassy slopes and meadows to provide habitat for the great variety of wildlife and plants.

It is widely recognized that the interspersion of forest and openings provides necessary thermal cover and forage areas for big game.

However, these habitats and the edges between them also support a great diversity of non-game wildlife.

It is these non-game species which too frequently get lost in the land management shuffle that are our greatest concern.

Indiscriminate logging and road building can only degrade these habitats, to the detriment of the plants and animals that inhabit them. Clearcuts and shelter wood logging destroy habitat for a wide range of wildlife, such as pileated woodpecker, pine martin and fisher, that depend on mature and old growth forests, as well as removing thermal and hiding cover for deer and elk.

Loss of wildlife, trees and down logs is devastating to scores of dependent wildlife such as cavity-nesting birds and mammals.

Construction of roads into the Lord Flat, Lake Fork and other wilderness areas would change much more than their recreational character. It is obvious that road-building directly destroys habitat. The direct effects on wildlife are not so immediately apparent. Recent research has quantified the adverse effects of roads on elk populations and the results on such secretive animals as wolverines, fisher and cougar can easily be inferred.

A continuing issue on the Wallowa-Whitman and other national forests is the reduction in snag habitat for cavity using wildlife. While much of this loss results from failure to adequately protect snags during logging activities, the problem is greatly exacerbated by felling of snags by woodcutters who gain ready access via roads.

Current analysis for the forest planning process indicates that on the Wallowa-Whitman, as is the case on virtually every national forest in the Northwest, current levels of timber harvest considerably exceed a sustainable yield.

Pressure to meet these unrealistic harvest levels not only creates difficulties in managing for other resources such as riparian areas and snag habitat, but ultimately threatens the future productivity of the land for timber production as well. Considerations for sound land management should lead to reductions in annual harvest levels through the forest planning process.

Riparian areas provide vital wildlife habitat everywhere, but are disproportionately important in Eastern Oregon. The coordinated federal management role that would follow Wild and Scenic River designation for the Lower Snake River will help ensure protection for riparian habitat in this area.

Elsewhere in the NRA, problems in riparian areas result from both cattle grazing, which unfortunately is not addressed in the current bill, and logging, which in part is driven by the need to get the cut out.

This "get the cut out" approach not only threatens critical riparian habitat but also poses grave problems for threatened and endangered and sensitive species.

For example, review of the Skook timber sale in the Hells Canyon NRA reveals Forest Service insensitivity to recreational, ecological and cultural values. The only wildlife mentioned were big game and upland game birds. Snag habitat discussion was totally inadequate.

Mention was made of one plant species of concern. Some protection was planned until the species was removed from the statewide list of sensitive plant species. No discussion was made of the local or regional significance of this population, nor is there any indication that a systematic survey for other species or communities of concern was conducted by qualified personnel. Business as usual, get the cut out approaches to convert this decadent old growth area to a productive timber stand is unacceptable anywhere and is especially inappropriate in the Hells Canyon NRA.

Of particular concern are the directives of former Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, John Crowell, who attempted in rewrite silvicultural texts by defining shelterwood logging as a form of selective timber cutting. He also directed the changes in the comprehensive management plan for the NRA should be made to compensate for any reductions in harvest levels resulting from the forest plans for the Wallowa-Whitman, Nez Perce or Payette National Forests.

This attempt to hold the NRA hostage to the necessary changes that would result from proper management decisions is unconscionable.

The Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act of 1975 was a good beginning. It clearly recognized the outstanding values of this remarkable area.

Under the management of the agency with a less inherent bias to commodity exploitation, the 1985 Act may have been sufficient.

Unfortunately the discretion provided in the Act has been abused, and it is now clear that to meet the original intent, further legislative direction needs to be provided the Forest Service.

The Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Conservation Act of 1985 will ensure that this extraordinary ecosystem will remain intact for our native game and non-game species as well as for public enjoyment.

As always, Portland Audubon Society is appreciative of this opportunity to present our concerns and suggestions to this Subcommittee and our conservation committee is available to clarify any questions you may have regarding our position on this important issue.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF STANLYNN DAUGHERTY, EASTERN OREGON OUTFITTERS AND GUIDES ASSOCIATION

Ms. DAUGHERTY. Senators, my name is Stanlynn Daugherty. I am here representing today the Eastern Oregon Outfitters and Guides Association.

The Eastern Oregon Outfitters and Guides Association is an association of 22 members who provide river, hunting and wilderness outfitting services in this region.

We would like to submit the following testimony in regard to Senate Bill 1803.

Many of our members use the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and any issue affecting that area will have an economic impact on their businesses.

We recognize the need for more emphasis on recreation management in this area. Our concerns primarily relate to elk, deer and anadromous fish habitat as well as the scenic and cultural qualities of the area.

Specific areas of the concern are the following:

First, the Lord Flat area, including Lightning, Cow and Horse Creek drainages is vital to elk management and to hunters.

We oppose the Lord Flat Road closure, but favor wilderness designation for the surrounding wilderness area.

Second. For similar reasons we support wilderness designation in the Mountain Sheep Unit including Cherry, Cook, Five Points and Jim Creek drainages, with allowance to access to private land currently held within that area.

Third, we believe timber management within the NRA should be conducted within the limit of the original NRA Act for enhancement of recreation and wildlife habitat.

We oppose the on-going tendency towards the below cost timber sales in the area.

Fourth, we support the incorporation of lower 33 miles of the Snake River into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Fifth, we believe the existing vehicular access is sufficient but the current road system is in need of improvement.

We feel that any legislation enacted should allocate funds for this purpose.

Sixth, we support the designation of the Imnaha Wilderness Area as wilderness to protect the primitive character of the Hells Canyon Rim in the vicinity of Lookout Mountain and Freeze Out Saddle.

In conclusion, we support legislation that will bring about a resolution of current management problems and believe the future of an economically viable outfitting industry is dependent upon recreation management for our National Recreation Area.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF DICK HENTZE, POWDER RIVER SPORTSMEN CLUB OF BAKER, OR

Mr. **Hentze**. Thank you, Senators Packwood and Hatfield, for the opportunity to offer our testimony here in Northeast Oregon. My name is Dick Hentze. I am speaking on behalf of the Powder River Sportsmen Club of Baker, Oregon.

First and foremost, to many generations of Americans, past and well into the future, we feel the broad range of values of the resources in Hells Canyon are important to many generations of Americans, both past asnd well into the future. This broad range of values needs to be maintained and protected from degradation by a dominant use.

These long term values must be considered and weighed against short term economic expediency.

Important values in Hells Canyon include unsurpassed rugged beauty, recreation to a full range of enthusiasts from hunters to rafters, hikers to R.V. campers, photographers to fishermen, rock climbers to jet boat operators, nationally famous deer and elk habitats that can't be improved, high quality water, remnants of once vast runs of chinook and steelhead, a large number of non-game wildlife, including peregrine falcons and bald eagles, which are both federally regulated species, and archeological and historical values dating back thousands of years.

In recognition of these values and the uniqueness of the area, Hells Canyon NRA was created in 1975. And it was cleared to assure that the natural beauty and historical and archeological values of the Hells Canyon Area and the 71 mile segment of the Snake River between Hells Canyon Dam and the Oregon-Washington border, together with certain tributaries and adjacent lands, are preserved for this and future generations.

If this clear Congressional intent had been carefully followed, we feel there would be no need to enact further legislation.

Unfortunately clearcuts on Horse Creek and the Hat Point area demonstrate clearly the U.S. Forest Service's inability to manage the area under the existing Act.

Logging below cost timber sales in extremely fragil areas, including narrow timber stringers on steep canyon walls and justifying excessive road building by developing a managed forest where existing values far outweigh these costs to taxpayers, are examples of improper management and blatant defiance of Congressional intent.

National consensus that this area should be managed for recreation and amenity values has been demonstrated.

Unfortunately, as is the case with many of the laws dealing with the management of public lands, Congress has ducked its responsibility to respond to national consensus by settling for vague language and large loop holes that allow many of the abuses we are seeing today.

There are rumors coming from Washington, D.C., that Congress is about to rediscover its collective intestinal fortitude on the issue of national tax reform.

Through your leadership, Senators Hatfield and Packwood, Congress will find the courage to remedy the mismanagement that we see taking place in the Hells Canyon NRA.

We support your efforts to establish strong language and provisions that will make this truly a national recreational area and not just another area of dominant timber use in everything but name only.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

We will ask panel No. 11 to be ready in 5 minutes. Mr. Jack McClaran, Mr. Pat Wortman, Mr. Bob Garnett, Mr. Birkmaier, Mr. Van Blaricom, and Ms. Agnes Roberts.

[Recess taken.]

Senator HATFIELD. We are now ready to proceed, panel No. 11.

Gentlemen, time's running on you, so the sooner you get on that microphone, the better.

Once again, I want to tell the panel, the time is running, please as you wish.

STATEMENT OF JACK K. McCLARAN, WALLOWA COUNTY STOCK GROWERS ASSOCIATION, OREGON CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION, AND THE NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Mr. McCLARAN. I guess the time is running on us so we had better talk.

Senator Packwood, Senator Hatfield, thank you for the opportunity to be here today. I am representing my family, McClaran Ranch. We have been ranchers in the Hells Canyon for almost 70 years.

Senator **Hatfield**. Excuse me. For the record, would you identify yourself.

Mr. **McClaran**. I am Jack McClaran. Where was I? Okay. I am also representing Wallowa County Stock Growers Association, the Oregon Cattlemen's Association and the National Cattlemen's Association.

I really have three points I would like to make. I would like to take you back first in time about 20 years when people first recognized that it was important to set aside certain areas because of their beautiful and unusual characteristics.

If any of you will recall, that was really the start of the RARE I, RARE II studies.

What they tried to do there was identify the areas that met the expectancy of the wilderness criterion.

At the conclusion of RARE II there was some finality put in terms of quantity, how much wilderness area we should have. And that was on a national basis.

And then more in terms of Oregon, and specifically the Hells Canyon, the Oregon Wilderness Act was passed in 1984. When that was done, and let's move then to just specifically the Hells Canyon area, there were areas identified in there in the RARE II process that were candidate wilderness areas. The conclusion of that recommended certain areas there. Okay.

Then the Oregon Wilderness Act, and for all the people that labored for years and all the money, there were 50,000 people that testified in the RARE process, from all persuasions, the finality of RARE II and the Oregon Wilderness Act were the people who had labored for years in that endeavor. This really, for this time and for the foreseeable future, this sort of finalized the wilderness question for right now and in the Hells Canyon, and very specific language, relegated those areas to wilderness, the process had decided it should be, and the rest of them they put under the Hells Canyon Management Plan.

Now, in defense of the people who have been responsible for administering the Hells Canyon, and this is I think a very important point, for almost nine years since the Hells Canyon went into existence, there was no Management Plan in the Hells Canyon.

It would be like working for somebody and they can't tell you what they are trying to do. Okay.

Specifically, in the Oregon Wilderness Act, and in my testimony I quote these, but I can't do that now, it put a final deal, that the rest of these areas should be under multiple use.

Now, it seems to us that having been done just recently, that now to introduce another piece of legislation, that disregards the conclusions of all that process, is in a way circumventing, disregarding the conclusions of that whole process and the finality of it.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you for the finality of your testimony.

Mr. **McClaran**. I just got started. How can you put 70 years in three minutes?

Senator **Hatfield**. Your testimony in full will be placed in the record.

Mr. **McClaran**. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. McClaran follows:]

TESTIMONY RELATING TO SB 1803
SUBMITTED BY JACK K. McCLARAN

For: McClaran Ranch, Box 488 Enterprise, Oregon 97828
Wallowa County Stock Growers c/o Jean Stubblefield
Rt. 1 Enterprise, OR 97828

Oregon Cattlemen's Assoc. 1600 N.E. Multnomah-Red Lion
Loyd Center, Portland, OR 97323

National Cattlemen's Assoc. 5420 Quebec St.
Englewood, Colo 89155

To support our opposition to additional wilderness in the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area I would like to make 3 specific points relating to the effect of SB 1803:

1) Disregards the process and public in-put of RARE I and RARE II and contradicts the conclusions of the Oregon Wilderness Act of 1984.

2) Adversely effects the continuation of economic activity in the HCNRA-makes these pursuits more expensive.

3) Depressing and stifling physical and mental effect on owners of private property brought on by layers of federal and state regulations and expectancies.
    a) County and state land use regulations.
    b) Federal grazing permit rules.
    c) Private land use regulations in HCNRA.
    d) Wilderness restrictions.

Let me briefly elaborate on each of the above.

1. In 1964 the National Wilderness Act became law and clearly spelled out the nature of areas to be considered as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. You will recall words and phrases like: "untrammled by man", "opportunities for solitude", "man himself is a visitor who doesn't remain", "have at least 5,000 Acres".

These plus more became the quality criteria for Federal lands to be classified as wilderness. Thirty four areas that had been previously designated as primitive were also included in this review.

In 1972 RARE I was initiated. This process identified areas that met the above criteria. Quality of the areas and their location was the most important component of RARE I Hells Canyon became a National Recreation Area. In 1977 recognizing that RARE I was incomplete RARE II was initiated expanding and refining the conclusions of RARE I. 2,919 areas were identified containing approximately 62,000,000 acres and became the RARE II inventory. Quantity and location became the driving force then. How much wilderness do we need? The NEPA process must be followed. People from all persuasions must have a voice in the decision making. 50,000 people commented on the RARE II inventory.

At the conclusion of RARE II the 2,919 areas were recommended for wilderness, multiple-use or future study.

In the HCNRA there were 16 of these areas under wilderness consideration. At the conclusion of RARE II 3 of them were put in the wilderness system and 13 were recommended for multiple-use under the Hells Canyon Management Plan.

At the conclusion of RARE II it was generally felt that for now and the forseable future this should satisfy the requirements for wilderness, using the quality and quantity expectations of 15-20 years of government and public in-put. It is impossible to even closely estimate the cost of the process. So lets say millions of hours and millions of dollars.

To further support the quality of these efforts the Oregon Wilderness Act (Federal) was passed in May 1984. This act specifically addresses wilderness in the HCNRA in the following concise language:

"the designation of these areas (3) as wildreness satisfies the requirements of wilderness study as directed by P.L. 94-199 (HCNRA) and other roadless areas are to be managed according to the direction provided within the Hells Canyon National Recreation area Comprehensive Managment Plan."

Attempts now to expand the wilderness ignores the conlcusions of years of effort and seem to contain elements of arrogance, possible political motivation and an unacceptable use of elected authority which make a mockery of the RARE process and the Oregon Wilderness Act.

2. Let me now address the adverse effect of wilderness on livestock operations. We have found that when areas are designated as wilderness economic activity decreases. The areas become playgrounds-not just physically but in terms of emphasis. Federal dollars that could be used for water development, fencing and range improvement are used for campgrounds, historical sites and identification of endangered species. The restricted use of motorized equipment makes it more difficult to feed cattle, pick up sick or down animals, cut out trails and haul salt etc. We go back to the 1800's to run our outfits. Old pack saddles have to be dusted off and put into use and the slow and expensive return to yester-year is something we can't afford.

3. Closely allied to the above is the stifling mental effect of trying to operate a livestock ranch in a highly regulated area. To emphasize this point let me tell you how our ranch in the Hells Canyon is impacted. We are now subject to the following land use regulations:

a) State and County land use regulation.
b) Federal grazing permit requirements.
c) HCNRA private land use requirements are scary. Here are a few.
    1. Condemnation of 5% of private property without owners consent.
    2. Scenic easement may be acquried without owners consent.
    3. Alteration of material land forms is prohibited.
    4. Set back and screening criteria are required.
d) Wilderness area expectations-decrease in land value.

In summation, we believe that the wilderness question should now be left alone. Enough is enough.

The private land within the HCNRA should not be subjected to any further harassment by restrictive use and covenants. The livestock operators should not be expected to absorb the additional cost associated with wilderness designation.

The ranchers who live in the HCNRA are tired of people from afar making decisions that affect their lives and their livelihood. Any further wilderness is unacceptable to the people who live and work in the HCNRA.

STATEMENT OF PAT WORTMAN

Mr. **Wortman**. Thank you. Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood, my name is Pat Wortman. I am a rancher from Enterprise.

I am strongly opposed to Senator Packwood's wilderness bill for several reasons.

The number one reason is economics. It is a known fact that recreation cannot take the place of resource oriented industry such as logging and agriculture.

Number two. It is definitely wrong to turn our backs on resources when we could enhance those resources through good, sound management.

Number three. I think that it is morally wrong to take land and jobs from those who are willing to work for a living, pay taxes and be a stable contributing part of our community and our State and our country

Number four. I think by attempting to set aside even more wilderness we are discriminating against a large segment of our population, such as the elderly and the handicapped. In fact, we have already discriminated against this segment by not providing proper access to wilderness areas we already have.

Number five. I believe that we should learn something from the rash of wild fires we have experienced this past month. To date suppression costs in Wallowa county alone are 6.2 million. We have endangered lives, wasted resources and spent unnecessary money due to the build-up of dead or downed timber and other fuels in unmanaged stations.

In closing I would like to say that if Senator Packwood does not listen to the pleas of our commerce and our industrial leaders, he possibly is listening to his own pocketbook rather than the people of Oregon that he is elected to represent.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. I would only suggest that the less personalizing of testimony, the more influential it may be.

Next please.

STATEMENT OF MACK BIRKMAIER

Mr. **Birkmaier**. Senators, my name is Mack Birkmaier and I'm a cattle rancher from Enterprise, and I'm not a politician. I live in the Joseph Creek Canyon.

I intend to be brief here today. I do not intend to repeat statistics that you already know.

Let me get straight to the point. That is, Wallowa County has contributed enough to the wilderness program.

In 1984 the wilderness bill was debated, compromised and finally passed.

This bill took a lot from our county and was supposed to be the end of the subject for a while.

We do have other things to do than constantly defend our county from land grabs of this nature.

It seems ironic and unfair to me that Oregon Congressmen are so dedicated to the taking of land that we Oregonians are dependent upon. To us it would make much more sense if Oregon's Senators were busy trying to grab big chunks of other States for their wilderness dreams.

It is time to face reality, Senators. Neither or county or country is in the economic condition to lock up land that is needed to generate income and revenues. Certainly the red ink on the federal budgets, a 230 million dollar deficit, our balance of trade deficits in the billions every month, our country's economic plight and the agricultural community's troubles can no longer be ignored.

Anyone here today who favors this wilderness bill is supporting a higher deficit, more red ink, more taxes for yourself and for your children and your grandchildren. It's as simple as that.

Senators, it boils down to two main points. Number one is economics. Can we afford it? No.

How about fairness, number two point? Has Wallowa County contributed enough? I say yes. Certainly 416,000 acres is enough. That's 36½ percent of our federal lands in that county. And 20 percent of our whole county.

To take more of our lands because of your dreams or political power is extremely unfair to say the least.

Thank you, Senators.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT J. GARNETT

Mr. **Garnett**. Senators, Bob Garnett is my name.

I'm writing this testimony against your bill S.B. 1803 because it dosen't address the liabilities to the private property owners within the area of the bill.

Your bill proposes to surround private property with wilderness and in doing so will devaluate said property. This will cause undue hardship on these property owners.

I can find no way for the property owner to be compensated for this loss.

To have your home and livelihood taken away from you by your government is not the fair way to compensate a person for his property.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 which this bill is proposed under, the area does not qualify under the definition of wilderness.

There are numerous roads of various quality, major power lines that transmit power out of State, plus many ranches and homes throughout the area.

Definition of the Wilderness Act is in Section 1, Item C of the Wilderness Act.

S.B. 1803 will create wilderness surrounding private property which was not the intent of the 1964 Wilderness Act. This will encourage other property devaluation.

Federally owned land belongs to all of the people of this country, not just a few. This land should be available to all the people all of the time and should not be managed so that it is not locked up in wilderness for a very few.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you. Next.

STATEMENT OF AGNES ROBERTS

Mrs. ROBERTS. Senators, my name is Agnes Roberts. I am a housewife.

My husband just retired from a life-time of logging and sawmill work. We have enjoyed a good life and raised four children in Wallowa County. Own our own home and have a good pension.

We fear this will not be the case for our two sons and two families who followed their father into the sawmill.

We feel there is no good reason for any additional wilderness. Public land should be just that, public.

Mankind is part of the environment as much as birds, elk, grass and trees. He must be fed, housed and clothed.

It is a mystery to me where Senator Packwood and company feel we will get these things and at what price when more and more land is closed to any commercial use.

Anything but multiple use should be in small packages and the majority of public land should be used to its full potential.

There is no good reason loggers, tourists, stockmen, hikers, etc., can't use the same forest. Huge wilderness is a terrible waste of our nation's resources and will only burn up eventually, as much of Wallowa County is doing right now. Do we save it? No, we didn't. Wilderness won't either. Those old growth trees are now ashes.

Huge wilderness takes away monies from schools and county roads, roads tourists need to get to that wilderness. Wilderness takes grazing away from stock growers and adds to the price of meat, cuts timber pricing, causing lumber prices to go up, as it did while so much land was held in the RARE II study.

Wilderness is a minus, not a plus. And a bad idea which is not even helping people in the tourist industry.

I ask you to drop Senator Packwood's bill, S.B. 1803, and take a good look at removing some wilderness and putting it back to multiple use as or national forests were meant to be.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of the Wallowa County Legislative Committee follows:]

Wallowa County Legislative Committee
P. O. Box 248
Enterprise, Oregon 97828

Involving people from the following organizations

Wallowa County Farm Bureau
Wallowa County Wheat Growers League
Wallowa County Stockgrowers
Wallowa County Woolgrowers
Wallowa County Board of Realtors
Local No. 2796 Lumber & Sawmill Workers
VFW Post & Auxiliary No. 4307
The Grange
A.A.R.P.
Associated Oregon Loggers

19 Aug. 1986

Senators:

We, the members of the Wallowa County Legislative Committee, wish to go on record against Sen. Packwood's Hells Canyon Wilderness. Bill known as SB 1803.

Sen. Packwood promised us that he would drop that bill if his figures were wrong. They were, and he didn't.

We will not quote figures here on acres and board feet as you already have those and our point is:

The wilderness already there is hardly being used and we can see no good reason for additional wilderness which will curtail the use of public lands by the public.

The forest will not be saved by not harvesting it, as can plainly be seen in Wallowa County today as thousands of acres of timber now lay in ashes; no cover for elk, no nesting for birds, no feed for anything, and no jobs for our Wallowa County timber people.

Timber is a crop and does best if regularly harvested, as Wallowa County forests have been for over 100 years.

If this committee is serious about the welfare of the people of Wallowa County, the State of Oregon, and the Nation, you will not add more wilderness. No nation is so rich that it can afford to squander it's resources, which is what that much wilderness is doing.

Of course environmentalists will only turn their attention to another place as they always do. We believe they care not a whit about our economy or the forest but have a hatred for loggers and mill people.

We ask you to stop this bill where it is and get on with helping people to use the present wilderness by upgrading roads and encouraging the building of places to stay.

Thank You,
Wallowa County Legislative Committee
Agnes Roberts - Chairman

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you. Next

STATEMENT OF E.H. VAN BLARICOM, CHAIRMAN, WALLOWA COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Mr. **Van Blaricom**. Senator, my name is E.H. Van Blaricom and I am a cattle rancher from Joseph. I am also chairman of the Wallowa County Republican Central Committee and it is from this position that I will address my remarks in opposition to the NRA additional wilderness bill.

We on the Republican Central Committee are the precinct workers who are charged with getting out the vote for our candidates.

Believe me when I tell you that our job is made very difficult, if not impossible, where Senator Packwood is concerned.

We can give people a number of reasons for voting for Bob Packwood, but the people in Wallowa County are so fed up with wilderness regulations, that this one issue creates an overwhelming barrier which is almost insurmountable.

We wish to commend both our Senators for their recent Appropriations Committee allocation of $100,000 for the preliminary work on the Hat Point and Dug Bar roads. This is the type of development that is sorely needed in our county. We need safe access to be able to utilize the scenic wonders of the Hells Canyon wilderness that we already have before we even talk about adding onto it.

I apologize for bringing politics into this hearing, and I am sure our Senators get out of patience with single issue voters.

But when people perceive that their livelihoods are in danger, they tend to become single issue oriented.

We would very much like to put this wilderness issue to rest so we can get back to supporting and working with our Senators toward making this part of Oregon a better place to live and to visit.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much. Panel 12: Mr. Andy Stahl, Mr. Marion Crow, Mr. Bruce Apple, Mr. Michael Bohannon, Ms. Lorelei Bensel.

STATEMENT OF ANDY STAHL, FORESTER, NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Mr. **Stahl**. My name is Andy Stahl.

I am a forester employed by the National Wildlife Federation, Portland, Oregon, National Resources Center.

I hold a degree in forest management from Oregon State University and have previously been a forest planning specialist for Associated Oregon Loggers and the U.S. Forest Serice. My testimony will focus on the expected economic effects of the proposed legislation on the local Wallowa County Area.

First, I analyze the independence of local timber firms on stumpage from the Hells Canyon NRA.

Second, I discuss some of the findings and conclusions of Dr. Obermiller's input, output, model of the Wallowa County economy.

The Western Forester journal of the Society of American Foresters claims that the proposed cap of 200,000 cubic feet from the

NRA would eliminate at least one mill and perhaps two from Wallowa County. *Western Forester*, November, 1985.

Using data supplied by the U.S. Forest Service, I have evaluated this claim.

There are four mills which have processed timber from the NRA since 1975, one of which has not milled NRA timber since 1979 and is now out of business. That's the Joseph Forest Products Company. The remaining mills, Boise Cascade's Joseph mill, Rogge Company and Wallowa Lake Forest Industries, now called Sequoia, have milled an average annual volume of 1.6 million board feet, 1.35 million board feet and 1.34 million board feet, respecitvely. The Forest Service reports that total normal annual milling capacity for each mill is 35 million board feet, 25 million board feet and 25 million board feet respectively.

Therefore, the annual contribution of NRA timber to each mill's operation during the last ten years has been three percent, five percent and five percent, respectively.

Figures of this magnitude do not support the assertion that limiting NRA timber output will cause any of these mills to go out of business.

Of the toll 37.5 million board feet of NRA timber milled by these three mills over the past five years 18 million board feet has been salvaged material for an average annual salvage volume of 1.8 million board feet. This amount of salvage could readily be made upon the remainder of the Wallowa District. If the NRA salvage volume is made up from elsewhere on the District, the percent loss for each mill is two percent, two percent and 3.5 percent.

Small contract loggers who often purchase small salvage sales would also be compensated for the loss of these sales from the NRA.

Doctor Obermiller, at the request of the Wallowa County Court, has prepared an input-output model of the county's economy and evaluated the number of hypothetical scenarios, one of which was a reduction of six million board feet from the Wallowa District Sales Program. He concludes that this represents reduction of only one percent of the total value of local transactions in 1981.

For most individual sectors of the local economy the relative impact of the hypothetical land use changes on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest is even less significant.

In conclusion, claims regarding mill closures and catastrophic effects on the local community of a cap on NRA logging are not supported by the available data and analysis.

Thank you, Senators.

STATEMENT OF LORELEI BENSEL

Ms. **Bensel**. Good morning. My name is Lorelei Bensel.

I am currently living in Salem to attend Willamette's Law School. But I have lived in Northeast Oregon for the last eight years and my family has its roots, my father was born in Hermiston, raised there. My grandparents and uncles still have a farm there.

It is important to my dreams and happiness that the Hells Canyon be preserved and wilderness designation of its existing wild forest is the only way to accomplish that.

I cannot tell you how many times in the last year I have longed to be back in Northeast Oregon. Nearly every day since I have moved I have thought of its beauty and lifestyle it offers. During the fall and the frenzy of law school I have called on my memories of Lake Fork and Mountain Sheep, to relax and refresh myself. In the winter months I thought of Hells and remember the ony time of everseeing a cougar and I remember going up to the upper Imnaha and Homestead to enjoy the first signs of what always seemed like a long-awaited summer.

Hells Canyon is one of the gems in the crown jewels of Oregon and it warrants this bill.

I have never considered that there would not be an independent Hells Canyon bill and the complexity of the National Recreation Area designation demands that it be a separate bill. It demands that there be a focus on wilderness, developed recreation and logging.

And this kind of examination could not have been performed during the Oregon bill.

The pressure within the Forest Service to develop and manipulate the resource are persistent, and I say this with having worked with the forest for seven years.

Senator Hatfield, you included fish emphasis, language for several tributaries to the North Fork, John Day as part of the 1984 Oregon Wilderness Bill.

And yet if you examine how the Forest Service has interpreted that language, you will find that it is generally business as ususal.

The Forest Service states clearly that it will be intensive timber management and thus roaded and significantly cleared of vegetation within 50 years.

And, Senator Packwood, you wrote that Hells Canyon bill, but you have heard testimony, today, will hear more today, that effectively demonstrates that the Forest Service has misinterpreted or worse yet, intentionally ignored the intent of the NRA legislation.

I submit to both of you that the Forest Service does not honor Congress' intentions and I predict they won't improve unless they are forced to do so.

It is my sincere belief that wilderness is the only designation that can protect and preserve the gems of Oregon and Hells Canyon is definitely one of Oregon's finest.

Therefore, in order to keep Oregon as Oregon, I must strongly support the Senate Bill 1803 and I ask both you to concentrate your efforts and accomplish this bill's enactment as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. I will get a response from the Forest Service on your comments relating to the John Day and make it a part of the record.

[The information follows:]

Forest Service response:

The proposed alt of forest plan does recognize the language in the 84 wilderness bill emphasizing the importance of anadromous fisheries in the N Fk John Day River. It is allocated to strategy 18 which is a special anadromous fishery allocation. Timber harvest is allowed - but is constrained to favor the needs of the fisheries with an attendant reduction in TM output of about - 20%. Special consideration will also be given in the project planning (EA) level with attention to streamside slope treatment. In short, it is not business as usual.

Jerry D. Allen FOREST SUPERVISOR
WALLOWA WHITMAN NF.

Ms. **Bensel**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL BOHANNON

Mr. **Bohannon**. Senators Packwood and Hatfield, I admire your stamina.

My name is Michael Bohannon and I am a logger from Enterprise.

I support Senator Packwood's bill, No. 1803, because I feel that Wallowa County needs ecological help as much as it needs an expanded economy.

Overcutting our forest and over-developing our land to remedy a weak economy is greed. We are failures if we must cripple our environment to satisfy our economic needs.

Our greatest asset in Wallowa County is its natural resources. Their proteciton is of the utmost for future economic diversity as well as environmental health.

We need to learn to be sensitive to the needs of this special land, especially the forest.

Here there is a complexity of life being carried out which we are just beginning to learn about.

There are miniature fungi in the soil which aid in the growth and health of a giant old growth tree. This tree then dies, decomposes into the soil and nourishes these fungi as well as other plants, animals and insects.

These circular processes are ongoing rhythmic forces forming a state of perfection in the natural forest, a work of art.

Any extractive thing man does in this forest is a blemish on this perfection.

This is all right as long as it is done with sensitivity and consideration towards the wholeness of this forest.

My friend Bob Jackson says it best. We are entitled to the bounty of the forest but not to the components of its character.

In other words, man extracting things from the forest for his needs should be in art form as should all of its other occupations.

When we achieve this ideal, we will have harmony between our ecology and economy.

As long as we insist on exploiting our environment without proper sensitivity towards the wholeness of our land and forest, we are going to have disharmony.

I see the addition of more wilderness, stronger protection of the Snake River and less emphasis on forest extraction in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area as a step towards a melting of humans with the land.

This is one of the goals of designating this magnificent land as a recreation area, a place to practice living by our higher ideals, learning to live our lives as true artists.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF BRUCE APPLE

Mr. **Apple**. Good morning, Senator Hatfield and Senator Packwood. My name is Bruce Apple. I am from Portland, Oregon.

I am here this morning representing myself as an individual whose recreation is primarily hunting and fishing opportunities.

I would like to share with you a real phenomena that within the groups of organized sportsmen in the Pacific Northwest, wilderness is not new. The argument has been going on for many, many years.

Ten years ago when an average sportsmens' club would be approached by a group or organization advocating wilderness, I wouldn't say that the reception was hostile, but it was less than sympathetic.

Five years ago when we were approached again with the latest rounds of State wilderness bills, a miraculous thing had happened. Not only were they willing to listen to a wilderness appeal, but these sportsmens' groups were beginning to weigh in with their time and money as well.

There are many people who have different theories as to why younger liberal memberships, people less interested in hunting and fishing. I say to you none of those was true. The issue was management, not wilderness.

Those of us who grew up in the country and the rural areas where you have many, many hunting and fishing opportunities were spoiled and used to it. We counted on agencies like the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to watch out after our interests for us.

What we have found out over the last decade, that just ain't so. Pardon my grammar, sir. They are not looking after our issues.

When it comes down to the issue between Fish and Wildlife, cutting timber, 99 percent of the time it's cut the timber.

We plead with you, as Congressmen, if you cannot do everything in wilderness, and I don't believe that that's so, you must turn your attention to the regulations as they are interpreted by these agencies and how they are implemented on the ground to protect, or in most cases, not protect fish and wildlife.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF MARION CROW

Mr. CROW. My name is Marion Crow. I am from Halfway, Oregon.

Hello, Senators Packwood and Hatfield. Glad you could be here.

I have lived in Halfway 52 years, as my parents, my grandparents before me. I own a small place over there. I work for the State Highway Department.

But today I'm testifying for the Oregon Sportsmen, the Halfway Chapter, a hunting group, fishing group of 90 members.

The Oregon Sportsmen fully supports Senator Packwood's Hells Canyon NRA legislation to protect valuable wildlands for their fish and wildlife values.

I have hunted, fished and wandered the mountains and canyons all of my life, and through the years I have noticed serious problems with the Forest Service management of our forest and our fish and wildlife resources.

Just above my home and in the Hells Canyon NRA the Forest Service has emphasized roads and logging which is causing losses to fish and wildlife.

And I have always believed in multiple use. And sometimes that means leaving a piece of ground alone instead of building roads and cutting trees. One such area is the Lake Fork area.

The Oregon Sportsmen, Halfway Chapter, supports wilderness designation for Lake Fork in Senator Packwood's bill.

For years we have asked the Forest Service to leave Lake Fork in its natural condition.

Instead, the Forest Service plans to build 60 miles of road in a four by eight mile area, and clear cut nearly the entire area.

I and the members of the Oregon Sportsmen have hunted, fished and camped in Lake Fork all of our lives.

The Lake Fork area has some of the best elk habitat and one of the back-county hunting in the Wallowa Mountains. Roads and logging would destroy this big game resource. The area is best suited for peoples' enjoyment in its natural condition. My family recently backpacked into the Horse Lake area and there is no way to replace the experience of hiking and hunting in this low elevation natural forest.

We must protect this area to give our children and grandchildren the chance to experience the forest as it has been for centuries.

The timber in the Lake Fork is not econmically worth logging. The Forest Service says this in their E.S. on the Lake Fork area that they just put out here not too long ago. Economics for Halfway would best be served by protecting the Lake Fork area and encouraging recreation and tourism.

Hells Canyon would best benefit our economy by protection and promotion of tourism.

On behalf of the Oregon Sportsmen and many Halfway folks we urge you to protect Lake Fork and other areas of wilderness by passing Senator Packwood's Hells Canyon bill.

Thank you.

Senator **HATFIELD**. Thank you very much.

Now Panel 13: Mr. Curt Jacobs, Mr. Glen Stonebrink, Mr. Byron Hawkins, Mr. Jerry Case.

Please proceed, gentlemen.

STATEMENT OF BYRON HAWKINS, PRESIDENT, UNION COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Mr. **HAWKINS**. Mr. Chairman, my name is Byron Hawkins. I am President of the Union County Farm Bureau and I farm here in this county.

The Union County Farm Bureau opposes Senate Bill 1803. We are philosophically predisposed to the multiple use concept of our national forest lands in Eastern Oregon. We feel that Senate Bill 1803 tips the balance, particularly in Wallowa County, adversely in the following way.

Number one, economically. The loss of cuttable timber will be much higher than it has been estimated in Senator Packwood's press release of October 1985.

The resulting economic loss to the area will be great. Loss of jobs in communities, towns, businesses and taxes would be financially disastrous to the people in this region.

Fairness. Changing the designation of the wilderness from NRA limits the opportunity of accesses of average people of average means, that it enjoyed for years. Wallowa County would receive a disproportional share of the burden.

Resource waste. Large amounts of timber damaged by fire, wind, storm, could not be salvaged. Limited access could contribute to the loss of large areas to fires over the years ahead.

For these reasons we feel that the current designation of Hells Canyon area as a National Recreation Area should not be changed.

That concludes my formal remarks. Since I am allowed to have lights and it is still green, I would like to say, one Sunday, oh, a couple months ago, when we were getting ready to go to church, the septic system backed up in our house, overflowed, and my wife and daughters became very upset, and informed me that I would get this thing fixed in a hurry, and they went off to church, expecting it to be done.

I had thought, you know, when I was out there fixing this disagreeable task, that I deal with people who are environmentalists usually from large cities, wouldn't it be nice if I could cork this system and turn off their lights, and I'll bet their wives would change their minds.

Well, figuratively speaking, a great big cork is heading for this region, and particularly Wallowa County.

I think you can understand why they are puckering, their eyes are bulging a little bit. I think in all fairness this cork shouldn't be heading in this direction.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much for your analogy.

STATEMENT OF ERIC ROMTREDT

Mr. **Romtredt**. Good morning, Senators. We are glad you could come out and hear a few words of wisdom, from both sides of course.

My name is Eric Romtredt. I am not Curt Jacobs today.

The saying, burn, baby, burn is in effect today. Curt Jacobs and Company have an allotment over at Ukiah.

Instructions yesterday morning over the telephone were to get your sheep out, boys, we're going to let her burn.

This is real economic management, you know. This forest, Forest Service will have to come in there and fence this thing and reforest it and they'll get nothing off of it for a while, and then perhaps you will go back within the next ten years, it will go back to some economic value.

But I don't have any agenda. I was notified about an hour-and-a-half ago that I was supposed to be here. But us people out here in Eastern Oregon and the State of Eastern Oregon, it seems like we are asked to make the sacrifices, we are asked to be the playground of Multnomah County, Lane County and it is kind of like Chicago, down State in Chicago, you know what I am talking about, working with Dan.

But I think that you have heard enough testimony to thoroughly confuse you, and to come up with a just decision will take the wisdom of Solomon, and the light is yellow, but thank you for being able to be here.

STATEMENT OF JERRY CASE, PRESIDENT, UNION COUNTY WHEAT GROWERS LEAGUE

Jerry Case. Good morning, Senators. I am glad you had time to come over here and listen to us this morning.

My name is Jerry Case and I represent the Union County Wheat Grower's League. I am a third generation farmer in this valley.

We oppose this bill, and its increase in wilderness for Northeast Oregon, plus the status change of 33 miles of the Snake River.

With less than half of the land mass in this three county area in private ownership, the earning ability for the residents of the area is limited. Therefore, the income from timber sales is a very critical part of the tax base that supports our communities, schools and roads.

Whenever an increasing amount of public lands are placed in a zero management situation, a return from that ground goes to zero.

We don't feel like they are really changing the demand on these things, we are not going to be responsible for what happens. That has got to be a waste.

It is extremely difficult to maintain a viable community, including schools and roads, when reductions in harest are imposed and roads, when reductions in harvest are imposed on these public lands to make more area for the select few that wish to come to our area for the so-called pristine wilderness experience.

A great number of our visitors come to enjoy the multiple use are and make some contribution, a much greater contribution to our economy.

The economic benefits to the area from the wilderness portion of our forests are so very minimal, relativew to its capability to generate income when the forest is a full management multi-use concept.

The additional 300,000 acres of wilderness designated to the already immense area already so designated impose even greater economic stress on the economy of Northeastern Oregon.

With this reduction in tax base it creates an ever increasing tax load other existing industry, agriculture, home owners, to support the mandated agencies of government.

With our high unemployment, our school budgets are going down, services to the community are being curtailed and the viability of our community deminishes.

In conclusion, we oppose the intent of Senate Bill 1803, the residents of Northeast Oregon have given up all they can to wilderness.

Let there be no more expansion of unproductive use of our timber resource. We must pursue the multi-use concept for as many acres as possible to maintain the economy of our area.

Senator **Hatfield.** Thank you.

Before we go to Panel 14, let me make one further point of this hearing very clear. That is, simply, that there are no substitutions for people who are listed officially as witnesses on our list, unless you have the written testimony to read on someone's behalf. Their position will be preserved in the record if they wish to later submit their written testimony. Now, there is a reason behind this. We have had over the history of hearings in the Senate people who have appeared on the scene and said, I am substituting for such and such witness, representing their viewpoint. We have found that that has not been cleared with the original witness listed on our witness list and therefore it has presented a question of integrity of the original witness listed.

So there will be no substitutes. We have just had a panel in which a gentleman appeared, substituting for another gentleman, without any notification to the committee.

I want to make that clear, because we have told others here in the room they could not substitute.

So only the names that we announce are to appear at the panel table for testimony.

Anyone who is here who has not signed up, your testimony will be welcome, but it will have to be put in writing and submitted to the Committee for the official record.

Now let us go to Panel 14, Mr. Timothy Lillebo, Mr. Dale Litzenberger, Mr. Rick George, Mr. David Light, Ms. Laurel Rubin.

STATEMENT OF TIM LILLEBO, OREGON NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL

Mr. **Lillebo**. Mr. Hatfield and Mr. Packwood, I am very glad you could make it out here. It is one of the few times you have both been together.

What we would like to do is maybe have you both come out and either float the river or take a tour with us down Hells Canyon. We think it is worthy of all Americans——

Senator **Hatfield**. Let's recess the hearing right now and go with you.

Mr. **Lillebo**. I think it would be a little cooler. Well, maybe hotter with the fire.

Anyway, I would like to seriously invite both of you to come on out. We are putting together a field trip and we would like to have several of the different interest groups, as well as yourselves, come out and take a look at some of the areas.

What we have seen is that there are problems with the management of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, as it pertains to the intent of the original Act.

Some of the logging, we feel there have been problems there, either with some clearcuts or with some damage to streams, dragging logs through the stream when the salmon were actually spawning.

What we would like to do is say that there needs to be tremendous improvements in that management. Our idea of course is to go ahead and designate the existing wilderness lands as wilderness, protect that resource, but in addition to that go ahead and develop the roads that do exist now, develop that access so that a lot more people can get in there.

I think the overall goal would be to make a larger contribution from the recreation tourism industry, actually make that become a reality.

I do have an article attached to my testimony from Mr. Hatfield, when you were up in Wallowa County. I agree with this.

But what I am saying, we need to protect the resource that is there, not lose that to some logging problems or some road building problems. Protect it and keep it and develop that recreation resource.

What we would like to do is take you out on the ground. There are some clearcuts occurring right now on the Hat Point road, you know, the famous Hat Point road, the main area to go in and see Hells Canyon. We would like to go out and take a look at those with you and your staff, and get down to the nitty-gritty.

On the ground is where you will see what's happening. We think maybe then you can come to some conclusions on improving the management.

The other thing, we are talking about a national park preserve concept. Several people have mentioned it. The idea of that would provide for hunting, of course. But it would give the recognition, the full recognition of that area and hopefully develop that recreation tourism industry, and that should over time become a diversified part of the economy, and we think that will strengthen and stabilize the economy in Wallowa County, add to it as a self-perpetuating industry.

We wish you would think of that also. We think it's a good option. I hope you will seize that opportunity and try to take it.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Lillebo follows:]

Oregon Natural Resources Council
— formerly the Oregon Wilderness Coalition —
Eastern Oregon Field Office, Box 9, Prairie City, Oregon 97869 (503) 820-3714

Hells Canyon National Recreation Conservation Act S.1803
Testimony of Tim Lillebo
Northeast Oregon Field Coordinator of the Oregon Natural Resources Council
Before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
La Grande, Oregon
August 19, 1986

Hello Senator Packwood and Senator Hatfield.

It's not often that Eastern Oregon has the fortune to entertain a visit from both Senators at once. We do hope you can extend your stay beyond this hearing and enjoy some of the magnificent country surrounding La Grande.

Hells Canyon country is truely worthy of a visit by you and all Americans. I want to support and thank Mr. Packwood for introducing the Hells Canyon Conservation legislation and I want to thank Mr. Hatfield and Mr. Packwood for holding this hearing where everyone can have their say.

Hells Canyon National Recreation Areas was established ten years ago and management has tended more toward logging and timber production than it has toward its full recreation development potential. Continuous timber sales have been sold in prime recreation lands while developed recreation and wilderness opportunities are being lost. Sales are generally in the headwater areas of streams, which will negatively effect the salmon, steelhead, and native fisheries. Also, only one-third of the Hells Canyon NRA is actually forested. Only 10% of the NRA has commercial timber available for harvest, so the logging is concentrated in areas critical for elk, deer, and wildlife cover as well as fisheries. There have also been specific problems with NRA logging in the form of clear cuts, dragging logs through anadromous streams, while salmon were spawning, and cutting excessive amounts of large trees along scenic travel routes.

Just two weeks ago KGW TV Channel 8 News and I visited a supposed blowdown salvage sale, where the agency claimed that the only clearcuts were natures' clearcuts, where all the trees had blown down. The TV camera crews witnessed and filmed acres of green healthy timber being clearcut. In one 30-40 acre clearcut we searched for upturned blowndown trees and saw only a couple per acre, while below us standing green tree after tree were cut down for no real reason. This sale includes clearcuts right on the Hat Point Road and adjacent to this famous scenic corridor. There are better ways to salvage blowdown than by clearcuts of adjacent green timber. Senators, the negative impact of such logging is clearly seen on the ground. We personally invite you to a field trip where we can look on the ground and you can judge for yourself if management should be improved. I sincerely hope you will accept our offer and see for yourself.

The Forest Service requires a quota of timber be cut each year from the

NRA. It is the cummulative effect of year after year of timber sales that is threatening the prime reacretion and wildlife values of the NRA. Senator Packwoods legislation would remove this threat, by designating a 1 MMBF limit on NRA harvest.

There is a true need for this Hells Canyon legislation. Every roadless area in the bill truely deserves wilderness protection; from the bunchgrass-rimrock bighorn sheep habitat in the Buckhorn-Mountain Sheep area, the high expansive plateaus and canyons of Lord Flat, to the forest and meadows of Lake Fork, all are worthy of lasting protection(your offices have been provided with descriptions and values of all proposed wilderness).

To designate the wildlands as wilderness will maintain the rustic and primitive nature of Hells Canyon for future generations. Wilderness will also protect vital fishery, wildlife, scenic, and recreation values which are the prime purposes of the NRA.

The bill also designates the lower 33 miles of the Snake River as a segment of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. This conforms with the Congressionally mandated Park Service Study which recommended Scenic and Recreation River status for the segment in 1984.

I fully support this urgently needed legislation, but I would also suggest that you consider designating the Hells Canyon NRA a National Park Preserve (includes hunting). In any other part of our nation Hells Canyon would be a famous National Park.

Such National Park status would truely protect and preserve the exceptional recreation, scenic, and wilderness values of Hells Canyon, while developing an economically valuable and self-perpetuating recreation-tourism industry for Wallowa County and Northeast Oregon. The National Park name would create recreation jobs to replace any possible loss in the timber sector.

Hells Canyon National Recreation Area does need access improvements. Capital investment suggestions for specific roads; including Hat Point, Dug Bar, and McGraw are enclosed. Also construction of several campgrounds and tourist facilities are recommended. I want to personally thank you for inlcuding appropriated moneys in this years budget for engineering and design work on Hells Canyon access roads. This is the crucial first step for developing a viable recreation-tourism industry. Such road improvements would compliment the additional wilderness by making the area fully accessible via developoment corridors to provide jumping off points into the wildlands.

Today we have the opportunity ot protect and maintain the extraordinary values of the Hells Canyon NRA while developing a strong recreation-tourism industry for Wallowa County and Northeast Oregon. Senators, I urge you to sieze this opportunity of proper recreation development while maintaing the wilderness and scenic character of the land for ours and future generations.

Thank You
Sincerely

Tim Lillebo

Tim Lillebo

Additional Testimony
Senate Hearing on Hells Canyon S.1803
La Gande, Oregon
August 19, 1986

Senator Packwood and Senator Hatfield,

Recently, interest groups from both sides of the Hells Canyon issue got together and decided that instead of always fighting each other we should find our common ground and support some common goals. The Oregon Natural Resources Council and People First have submitted a list of agreements(inclosed in my testimony). These agreements were facilitated by Brian Carper of People First and myself.

The agreements include the following;

1. National Park Preserve status for the Hells Canyon Area
2. There are problems with current Hells Canyon NRA timber management
3. There needs to be access improvements
4. When Congressional funding committments are made to recreation/tourism all concerned parties will support and promote maintaining the area in its present condition.
5. Construction of campgrounds
6. Completion of Hells Canyon visitor center
7. Boat ramp and commercial facility at Dug Bar
8. Commercial facility at Hat Point (Memaloose)

Senators, I belive this is an important step in resolving the Hells Canyon NRA issue and appreciate your full consideration of these mutual agreements.

Sincerely

Tim Lillebo

Tim Lillebo

by Tim Lillebo ONRC
Brian Carper P.F.

Draft form of Mutual Agreement

1. National Park Status (preserve with hunting). Boundaries of this area will have to be mutually agreed upon. May or may not be inclusive of the present Snake River Wilderness, HCNRA, or other areas that are agreed upon by mutual consent by all groups.
   a. to protect the natural resource and scenic values of the HCNRA.
   b. to promote and develop tourism and recreation economy based on the HCNRA.

2. There are problems with the current HCNRA timber management. Both sides agree there are problems, but we have not come to any common ground as to the exact problem or the solutions.

3. There need to be access improvements on the HCNRA to promote and develop tourism/recreation.
   a. complete Wallowa Mt. Loop road paving.
   b. improve Hat Point road: one lane with turnouts and two lane gravel.
   c. improve Dug Bar road: one lane with turnouts and two lane gravel.
   d. improve McGraw-PO Saddle road: one lane with turnouts and two lane gravel.
   e. several trail heads and surrounding areas need improvements and promotion.

4. When Congressional commitment to recreation/tourism is made (funds in hand) for developments, all concerned parties will support and promote maintaining the area in its present condition.

5. There needs to be recreation improvements in the form of campgrounds at:
   a. Hat Point (two)
   b. Granny View Point
   c. Dug Bar (non-primitive campground)
   d. McGraw Lookout area
   e. Imnaha River area

6. The Hells Canyon visitor center must be completed to provide information and promote tourism/recreation.

7. Boat ramp and commercial faciilities needed at Dug Bar.

8. Commercial Lodge facility needed at Hat Point (Memaloose).

P. O. Box 105
Joseph, OR 97846

August 6, 1986

Mr. James Torrence, Regional Forester
P. O. Box 3623
Portland, OR 97208

Dear Mr. Torrence:

I am taking this means of inviting you or your representative to a joint meeting of PEOPLE FIRST, Citizens for Perpetual Resources, Oregon Natural Resources Council, Izaac Walton League, and several other environmental and industrial groups at La Grande, OR on August 18, 1986, at 4:00 P.M., at Riverside Park.

This is surely the first time these groups have ever held a joint meeting, and the purpose is to express our views and insights on the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area. These groups will be trying to make some things happen on the HCNRA, which is our main area of concern at this time.

Please find enclosed, a list of the draft agreement. These items are only in draft form at this time and are subject to change.

Please plan to attend this very important and informative meeting.

Media release will follow meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Brian E. Carper
President, PEOPLE FIRST
Secretary, Citizens for Perpetual Resources-CPR

Enclosure

copies:Hatfield, Packwood, Smith, Smith, Weaver, Wyden,
Aucoin, J. Allen, J. Torrence

Tim, Here are copies of the 2 letters I sent out.
Hope they are satisfactory - See you on the 18th & 19th

BEC

Hatfield says County should pursue tourism

By Rick Swart of the Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield this week said he thinks he can help Wallowa County in its efforts to develop tourism and would be happy to do so.

"Of all the counties in the state, you have some of the most marvelous attractions," Hatfield said to about 50 persons gathered at a "Meet Mark" breakfast Tuesday morning.

Hatfield expressed support for the Wallowa Lake Basin Economic Development Plan compiled by a local task force and published last February. The plan, which is the number one priority of the Blue Mountain Intergovernmental Council representing Union, Baker, and Wallowa counties, calls for construction of sewerage and water systems that would serve residents at the head and along the west shore of Wallowa Lake. Estimated cost of the project is $5.1 million.

"You're starting at the foundation, and that's good," said Hatfield, describing sewer and water development as the key to most types of development. He also said Oregon has fared well in competition for Economic Development Agency (EDA) and Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) funds for such projects. "I'd be very happy to help in any way I can," Hatfield told proponents of the Wallowa Lake plan.

Hatfield also indicated support for developing better access to the Oregon side of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, which Hatfield helped push through Congress 10 years ago.

"The National Recreation Area could become your biggest draw . . . the biggest attraction you have," Hatfield said, adding that enabling legislation didn't intend to create an area "only the eagle can get in."

"Let's plan it, let's design it, and let's implement it," Hatfield said of improving access from the Oregon side.

While Hatfield was supportive of plans to develop the tourism industry of the area he pointed out that developing better facilities is only part of the solution.

"You really have to want people to come here," Hatfield said, noting that attitudes are an important part of tourism development. "Don't carry a chip on your shoulder — and you have this kind of a reputation," he continued. "Get positive, upbeat," he said. "Take a liability and turn it into something positive."

The senator said he does not intend to draft any more wilderness legislation, although he said he understands fellow Oregon senator, Bob Packwood, is doing so. Hatfield said, however, that he probably would hold hearings on Packwood's bill as a matter of professional courtesy. "I take a dim view of eroding the base of an area that's already been eroded," he reassured.

SEN. MARK HATFIELD

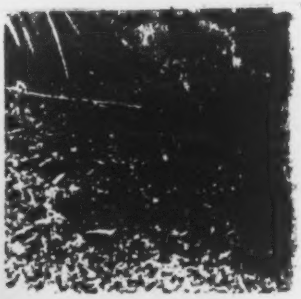
The "buy back" provisions of the Timber Relief Bill signed by President Reagan before the last election will be sufficient to tide the Oregon timber industry over until better market conditions prevail, Hatfield predicted. He added that the federal payment - in - lieu of taxes program, salvaged in the '85 budget "with a lot of hard work," will continue to balance out the losses in tax base for counties under large federal ownership, including Wallowa County.

Eastern Oregonians can look forward to the construction of a new lock at Bonneville dam on the Columbia River, according to Hatfield. The new lock, which will be constructed at a cost of an estimated $192 million, is expected to reduce the locking time of barges from the average 12.7 hours to 1.9 hours, saving shippers $2.50 a ton.

"The Bonneville lock is going to open the gateway to Asia," Hatfield stated. Eastern Oregon producers as a result will gain an advantage in shipping overseas, and Wallowa County will take on a more important role in the scheme of things, Hatfield said. "We're going to diversify eastern Oregon if I have anything to do with it," he added.

Hatfield said he was chided in Washington, D.C. for having received his "pork belly" with last-minute Congressional approval of the new lock. But Hatfield says it will free approximately $500 million in private investments along the Columbia-Snake rivers system and generally brighten the economic future for an entire region of the nation.

Hatfield's stop in Enterprise was one of several in his three-day swing through eastern Oregon.



BURNS WOMAN KILLED — County extension agent Shelley M. I killed instantly when her small car coll

DEQ director tells council

Hazardous wast no immediate th

By Robert Evans of the Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — Hazardous wastes found in the soil at Joseph Forest Products are not posing an immediate threat to the Enterprise city water supply located in nearby springs. However, determining who's going to pay for cleaning up those wastes is keeping the problem from being solved.

That was the assessment given by Fred Hansen, director of the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, during a special meeting of the Enterprise City Council Monday.

"Our determination, from an environmental standpoint, is the operation (of JFP's wood treatment plant) is not contributing to the problem," said Hansen who had toured JFP's operation Monday afternoon with DEQ assistant director Stan Biles, DEQ's Eastern Oregon regional manager Steve Gardels from Pendleton and DEQ public information officer Carolyn Young. Hansen said he expected a clear direction on who's going to pay for cleaning up the site to appear before this fall.

The plant, located northwest of Joseph about one-half-mile south of the springs that feed into Enterprise's municipal water system, illegally discharged arsenic and chromium contained in wood treatment materials (copper chromated arsenic) into the soil as early as 1981. Gardels notified JFP to install containment systems to prevent treatment material from running off of lumber drip pads and onto the surrounding soil in a January 1982 letter to the company. The company, which had been operating at a reduced capacity for the past four years, did not install the containment system nor do some of the other work to prevent chemical discharges into the soil when DEQ staff members inspected the facility again in September 1984. A soil sample taken from the corner of the drip pad revealed arsenic and chromium and the

comp
mum
May
disp
othe
disp
Ac
finall
chem
soil
drip
tainn
dam
Acco
bers,
forec
Hom
Bank
amon
proc
treat
noon
"R
contr
said
trace
appe
from
the r
the p
ment
arser
show
prise
Daw
ent
told
poten
inatic
"W
is: E
conta
exter
Han
ties
the
The
(nort
migr
Hans
Du
meet
half a
asked
to ta
clean
DEQ
with
ging
mine
Most
been
too

STATEMENT OF RICK GEORGE, OREGON TROUT

Mr. **George**. Good morning, Senators. My name is Rick George. I am a member of Oregon Trout. I am testifying for Oregon Trout this morning.

I would like to make sure that we focus what we are talking about here during this hearing. There has been a lot of testimony. I think there is not some.

We are talking about managing a very special unique area.

We are not talking about an intensively managed forest somewhere else. We are talking about Hells Canyon.

There has been a problem with that management. We are here to deal with that. I think that's obvious or we wouldn't be here.

The situation is not an all or nothing situation.

There has been a proposal put forth in the bill. Oregon Trout supports that proposal. Oregon Trout is willing to listen to other proposals.

I have not heard any today.

You have heard that there are fall chinook, spring and summer chinook that utilize Hells Canyon. These are native fish. They are wild. There are also summer steelhead. There are native resident trout.

A very important point in regard to trout is that there were three races—or one race of native redband trout discovered at three different drainages in the Hells Canyon area. This is a very important point. They are genetically distinct.

Oregon Trout stresses the inseparable tie between fisheries, water quality and an undisturbed watershed. All habitat supporting native wild salmon and steelhead and resident trout must be protected. All habitat that historically supported these stocks should be maintained for near future reintroduction or enhancement.

The proposed Mountain Sheep Wilderness Addition in Washington includes the Cherry Creek watershed supporting redband trout. The Buckhorn Wilderness Addition, Lord Flat Wilderness Addition, Sheep Divide Wilderness addition and Imnaha Face Wilderness Addition all provide important tributary watershed to the Imnaha River.

Horse Creek, Lightning Creed and Cow Creek, within the Lord Flat Wilderness Addition are the most important tributary drainages in the National Recreation Area for wild steelhead.

The upper Imnaha River watershed included in the Lake Fork Wilderness Addition and Eagle Cap Wilderness Addition provide salmon and steelhead and resident trout habitat.

Lick Creek and Big Sheep Creek are considered critical for spring chinook.

All of the above named Wilderness Additions whose watersheds are tributary to the Imnaha River are of utmost importance to the salmon, steelhead and resident trout fisheries of the Imnaha.

The Homestead and Mountain Sheep Wilderness Additions are important to the native resident trout fishery in Pine Creek.

Oregon Trout believes there is adequate scientific evidence of the incompatibility at this time of watershed surface disturbance and maintenance of wild anadromous and resident fisheries.

Dr. Ken Cummins has done an extensive amount of research. I would also like to point out the Northwest Power Plan Act works. I ask you to see if there is compatibility between this plan, the commission plan and the present management. I say that there is not.

I would like to close by saying that at the very least we have a $4 million project now in Starky to monitor elk and forest management practices.

At the very least, we should not touch Hells Canyon until that study is complete. We should not create any surface disturbance or any habitat modification to the elk, especially in the Lake Fork area, the Lord Flat area, before that study is complete. It is $4 million. It is a ten-year project. It's critical.

Hells Canyon exemplifies one of the major examples of resources that are applied to that land.

I would like to point out that compliance with this is an inherent part of the management of the NRA, and I do not think that we are complying with this right now. We are spending a multi-million dollar budget annually and we are not complying with it. The left hand is doing one thing while the right hand is doing something else. I wish you would check with compliance on that.

[The prepared statement of Mr. George follows:]

Oregon Trout

Hells Canyon Wilderness Hearing
Testimony- August 19, 1986

OREGON TROUT is a statewide organization dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of native-wild salmon and steelhead and resident trout. History, extensive technical research and basic common sense guides OREGON TROUT's tenet that productive, viable fisheries can be economically maintained only in pristine habitat.

STATEMENT OF RESOURCES

Fall chinock salmon spawn and rear in the Snake River, spring and summer chinook spawn and rear in the Imnaha River and Lick Creek and Big Creek. Other tributary drainages such as Cow Creek, Lightning Creek and Horse Creek are probably used at least for rearing habitat.

Summer steelhead rely on the Snake River, Imnaha River and Cow Creek, Lightning Creek and Horse Creek for spawning and rearing habitat.

Native resident trout are present in many of the tributary streams and in the Imnaha River and Snake River. Isolated populations of wild redband trout discovered in Cherry Creek, Deep Creek and Cook Creek are of critical genetic importance.

POSITION

OREGON TROUT stresses the inseparable tie between fisheries, water quality and an undisturbed watershed. All habitat supporting native wild salmon and steelhead and resident trout must be protected. All habitat that historically supported these stocks should be maintained for near future reintroduction or enhancement. The proposed Mt. Sheep Wilderness Addition (WA) includes the Cherry Creek watershed supporting redband trout. The Buckhorn WA, Lord Flat WA, Sheep Divide WA and Imnaha Face WA all provide important tributary watershed to the Imnaha River. Horse Creek, Lightning Creek and Cow Creek, within the Lord Flat WA are the most important tributary drainages in the NRA for wild steelhead. The upper Imnaha River watershed included in the Lake Fork WA and Eagle Cap WA provide salmon and steelhead and resident trout habitat. Lick Creek and Big Sheep Creek are considered critical for spring chinook. All of the above named WA's whose watersheds are tributary to the Imnaha River are of utmost importance to the salmon, steelhead and resident trout fisheries of the Imnaha. The Homestead and Mtn. Sheep WA's are important to the native resident trout fishery in Pine Creek.

JUSTIFICATION OF POSITION

OREGON TROUT believes there is adequate scientific evidence of the incompatibility of watershed surface disturbance and maintenance of wild anadromous and resident fisheries. Dr. Kenneth Cummins, Ph.D., formerly at Oregon State University has documented the impact of watershed disturbance on the ecology of not only the watershed itself but the 3rd and 4th order drainages below. Dr. Cummins states that "If our streams and rivers are to retain aesthetic recreational and commercial value we cannot ignore the basic structural and functional relationships of terrestrial habitat to riparian and stream habitat." In other words removal of timber within a watershed affects water quality.

OREGON TROUT believes that in order to rehabilitate the Pacific Northwest salmon and steelhead fishery, habitat and genetic resources must be conserved on a basin and sub-basin level. Hells Canyon NRA fish contribute to every aspect of the Pacific Northwest fishery. Protection and enhancement is required by the Northwest Power Act's Fish and Wildlife program. Power Planning Council staff recognize the responsibility of land managers to the success of fishery rehabilitation with ratepayer funds. Council staff have said that the "...activities of these parties and Council must be coordinated so they don't negate expenditures of the Council's program."

In regard to this, OREGON TROUT believes that upriver fisheries have been mitigated to death. And that is a near literal description. We must begin to manage remaining habitat for fish. If this can't be done in a National Recreation Area, where can it?

Expenditures for fishery research put purported economic impacts of NRA wilderness designation in a different light. Congressional appropriations supply the \$1-2 million annual Army Corps of Engineers research funds for salmon and steelhead. The Bonneville Power Administration spends an average \$8 million per year plus \$1 million annually specifically on the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan. This money comes directly from ratepayer pockets. Additional expenditures are made annually by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, National Marine Fisheries Service, State agencies, tribes and private organizations.

Justification of these expenditures requires protection of spawning habitat. Compliance with the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program is an inherent part of future Hells Canyon NRA management. Currently the left hand is spending millions of dollars every year to pass fish by large dams while the right hand spends it on logging and road construction. The two hands meet in silted spawning beds and dry rearing streams. While we consider clearcutting and roading undeveloped areas in the NRA, the State of Oregon is spending about \$3.5 million annually. This money goes to protection and rehabilitation of habitat that has previously been degraded by such activities as logging and grazing.

The U.S. Forest Service proposal to classify anadromous fish in Regions 1,4 as "sensitive" has clear relation to the NRA. This proposed, self-imposed restriction, urgently needed, is a sign that we may be making some progress at a planning level. Habitat management in the NRA should reflect this concern. Additional justification for habitat protection comes from the past record of logging in the NRA.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

OREGON TROUT believes the long term economic, social and aesthetic benefits of a productive fishery and associated recreation outweigh the extremely short term benefits of timber harvest. OREGON TROUT supports adoption of Sen. Packwood's Senate Bill 1803 as is. Wilderness addition, expansion of the Wild and Scenic River designation on the lower 33 miles of the Snake River and a specific cap on annual timber harvest provide direct benefit to the fishery. Oregon's commercial salmon fishery is valued at $88 million annually while the sport fishery of salmon, trout and steelhead adds nearly $400 million.

Richard W. George

Rick George - member
OREGON TROUT
505 M Avenue
La Grande, OR 97850

Bill Bakke - Exec. Director
OREGON TROUT
P.O. Box 19540
Portland, OR 97219

STATEMENT OF DALE LITZENBERGER, FRIENDS OF THE WHITE WATER

Mr. LITZENBERGER. Senators, my name is Dale Litzenberger.

I am representing the Friends of White Water. It is an organization with chapters in all four Northewest States, dedicated to preservation of the existing free running rivers in this area.

I'm a white water addict. Just a week ago I completed a trip through Hells Canyon.

The most frightening thing that one sees from a raft on the river is not white water, not rapids and not the rather abundant rattle snakes down here, but it is the graffiti, engineered graffiti we call it.

As you travel down the river, you'll see painted on the rocks above the high waterline large letters, things like L.M.S., L.M.S., which designate dam sites. There are others unpainted but well known, China Gardens and so on. H.M.S. means High Mountain Sheep. L.M.S. means Low Mountain Sheep.

There are a large number of dam sites along this river which hopefully will never be built.

We just can't permit any more construction. The damn builders—The dam builders, excuse me, have already destroyed some of the best white water in Hells Canyon with construction of Hells Canyon Dam.

We fully support the extension of the wild and scenic designation to the mouth of the Grande Ronde River and we further support the designation of the remaining stretch of free running river to the head waters of the Lower Granite Dam.

I had better quit now. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF DAVID M. LIGHT

Mr. LIGHT. My name is David Light. I am from Halfway.

Thank you, Senators Packwod and Hatfield, for coming this morning.

I would like to make several points.

First, while our local economy is suffering due to downturns in timber and agriculture, there is disagreement about how to remedy this situation.

Many beleive, as I do, that diversification rather than continued concentration in weakening sectors makes the most sense.

Forest Service projections show steady increases in the demand for unroaded, dispursed recreation and businesses related to this industry have been increasing. Two have begun operating in my small community of Halfway last year alone.

The timber industry believes that this Bill would result in the loss of many jobs that would not be replaced by recreation related jobs.

However, it appears with the current economic conditions, demand for timber products will have a much greater impact on employment in this industry than will the supply of timber.

In addition, supply can be increased if the industry is willing to work more closely with small woodland owners on timber management.

As a woodland owner myself and a long time member of the Baker County Small Woodland's Association, this cooperation has not always been evident.

Second, I believe the Lake Fork area in particular deserves wilderness designation and should be preserved in its natural state.

As a rancher I work regularly in this area maintaining an irrigation ditch and I am familiar with its special resources, the wide range of land types and elevations and the rich diversity of game and non-game wildlife. This is prime elk calving and breeding areas. Also this is an excellent black bear habitat.

Now, shelterwood timber cutting is planned for the Lake Fork area beginning in 1988.

The first timber sale, the Aspen sale, will cut 13-and-a-half million board feet of timber, cover more than one-quarter of the 15,000 acre area, involve the construction of approximately 20 miles of new roads in just this sale.

According to the proposed Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan eventually they are able to control over 140 miles of road, half of which would be permanent.

The Forest Service has stated that primarily due to the expense of this road building the cost of these timber sales will exceed the receipts.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Light follows:]

TESTIMONY BEFORE
THE SENATE FIELD HEARING ON THE
PACKWOOD WILDNERNESS BILL

NAME: David M. Light, Rancher
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 739, Halfway, OR 97834

In the brief time alloted, I would like to make three points.

First, there are differences of opinion among people in this area on the issue of wilderness.

Many outspoken opponents of wilderness give the impression that there is very nearly unanimous local opinion in opposition to additional designations. My experience contradicts this. In the last year I have participated in several well-attended public meetings in the Halfway area concerned with the protection of nearby wilderness values and I noted the majority appeared to favor protection in some form.

Second, local economies are an issue.

While most people in the area would probably agree that many local economies in the region are suffering, primarily due to downturns in the timber and agriculture industries, there is not unanimous public opinion on how to solve these economic problems.

Many believe, as I do, that diversifying our economies rather than fighting for continued concentration in weakening sectors makes sense. Forest Service and industry projections show steady increases in the demand for unroaded, dispersed recreation.

With growing awareness of the many recreational values that Northeast Oregon offers, businesses related to this industry have been increasing. Two have begun operating last year in my small community of Halfway, alone, and others are being considered.

The jobs issue is a hot one. The timber industry believes that this bill would result in the loss of 80 to 90 timber-related jobs, and that these jobs would not be replaced with as many -- or as high-paying -- recreation-related jobs. However, it appears that with the current economic conditions, demand for timber products will have a much greater impact on employment in the timber industry than will the supply of timber. In addition, if supply is a great concern, I would encourage industry to be more willing to work closely with small woodland owners on woodland management. As a woodland owner myself, and a long-time member of the Baker County Small Woodlands Association, this cooperation has not always been evident.

Third, I believe the attributes of at least one of the proposed areas leave no doubt that it should be preserved. Although I have spent some time in all four of the southern areas proposed for wilderness protection, I am most familiar with the Lake Fork area. As a rancher, I work in the area maintaining an irrigation ditch several times each year and I feel I know it well.

I believe Lake Fork makes a good candidate for wilderness designation because:

1) There is a wide range of land types including a variety of forest types, meadows, mountain slopes, rock formations, forest bogs, and streamside areas. The area contains the second largest Douglas Fir tree in Eastern Oregon, and ranges in elevation from 2600 feet to 7000 feet.

2) The area is well known for its rich variety of wildlife. A wide assortment of birds as well as many small and big game and non-game species abound. The creeks sustain rainbow trout and eastern brook populations. Large numbers of elk use the Lake Fork area for breeding and calving. Concentrations of deer and elk have made the area one of the favorite hunting spots in the region. The area is excellent black bear habitat.

3) The Lake Fork area offers the opportunity of a wilderness experience to a range of potential visitors. A network of trails provides a variety of types of experience, and automobile access is available to both ends of the area.

Shelterwood timber cutting is planned for the Lake Fork area beginning in 1988. Without protection, the first timber sale, the Aspen sale, would cut 13.5 million board feet, cover between 4,000 and 7,000 acres of the 15,000 acre area, and involve the construction of approximately 20 miles new roads. According to the proposed Wallowa-Whitman Forest plan, eventually the area would contain over 140 miles of roads, of which half would be permanent. The Forest Service has stated that, primarily due to the expense of building these roads, the cost of administering the area's timber sales will exceed the receipts from these sales.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my thoughts on this important issue.

David M Light

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much for your testimony.

STATEMENT OF LAUREL RUBIN

Ms. RUBIN. Hello, Senators. My name is Laurel Rubin.

I have lived in Northeast Oregon for 11 years and I indeed identify with the job loss fear that many people have in this room right now because I have difficulty finding employment in Northeast Oregon also.

For the past eight months I have been leading delinquent youth on 21 day primitive survival trips in the deserts of Arizona and Idaho. These kids come from Seattle, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Chicago and other large cities.

All of them are victims of alcohol or narcotics addictions, kleptomania, school truancy, family upheaval and the myriad other problems bred by modern day urban, and to a lesser degree, rural environments.

Wilderness is extremely foreign to nearly all of these kids, and we head out into it without any matches, tents or sleeping bags or backpacks, and with a minimum of clothing and very little food.

My responsibility is to teach these initially bitter and reluctant kids how to make themselves comfortable and successful to the best of their ability on this three week journey.

I guide them through the wilderness, and as my employer requires, I choose routes away from any signs of development or presence of modern day humans. This includes roads, shacks or even hunting camps, and as wilderness areas diminish, this is becoming increasingly difficult to accomplish.

I want to emphasize the significance of this. I have observed the kids' reactions to man made features.

For example, when we encounter a road, even if it is only a jeep trail, they lose their acception of being in this foreign environment. A road generates discussion, not of whether we should dig roots that afternoon in order to have food that evening, or where the nearest spring might be, but rather how far it would be to run away from there. And many do.

Buildings and other modern signs create a similar distraction and corruption from the reality the kids are in and a temporary setback to their prioritizing values and taking responsibility for themselves and to the group.

These setbacks are overcome with time and further immersion into the wilderness.

The final effect of these trips on these developing youth is profound.

80 percent abandon drugs and improve their grades, their family relationships, and their relationships with themselves. Wilderness heals.

I won't follow this verbatim, but these kids are from Arizona, and they go to Idaho and they are healed. It's not purely a local issue. Wilderness is a national if not a global issue.

Secondly, it is the absence of modern day human intrusions which really sets the hook on the line which leads these kids to recovery. Nothing before has ever made this quite so clear to me, that vast, pure wilderness holds powers that simply aren't present and cannot be created anywhere else.

And as cities and crime rates grow, the need for more of this vast pureness grows, too.

Wilderness acres are the physical, emotional and spiritual vaccine we must stockpile as an epidemic of physical, emotional and spiritual degeneration spreads, touching even Northeast Oregon.

In Hells Canyon, I know the Wild Horse and Lord Flat areas best and believe them to be high quality contributions to such a stockpile.

I said in the beginning of my testimony that I do view this issue with compassion, and I mean that.

So often I think about the loggers, millworkers and their families in Wallowa or Elgin or Baker, who hate people like myself because they see me as a selfish, heartless threat to their livelihoods and the quality of their lives.

These images fill me with frustration and sorrow, not so much for the loss of wilderness and healthy managed forest land that the quality of my life is dependent upon, but rather because I see incredible wasted potential for us with our differing backgrounds and skills, to come up with some creative solutions to the present lack of employment opportunities, plus the inevitable further loss of jobs in Northeast Oregon, as the trees run out, new wilderness or not.

I respect the hardiness and devotion to this area that so many people have for this place, whether or not they are disapproving or threatened by my views. I am every bit as desirous of making a decent living and being able to stay home in Wallowa County to do so as is anyone.

We have some very significant things in common, and I hope we will eventually communicate on those grounds.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Rubin follows:]

TESTIMONY OF LAUREL RUBIN
BEFORE
PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
SENATE ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

HONORABLE MARK HATFIELD
HONORABLE ROBERT PACKWOOD

ON

SB 1803 HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
CONSERVATION ACT

AUGUST 19, 1986
LA GRANDE, OREGON

I am Laurel Rubin. I live in Wallowa County, at Minam. Over the past 11 years living in this area, I have worked primarily as a field biologist with some periods of employment in archaeology, on ranches, as an indepedent craftsperson, wilderness survival instructor, and a chimney sweep. Indeed, I identify with the frustration and threats the local mill workers, loggers, and their families feel in relation to this wilderness legislation, because for me too, long-term secure employment in Northeast Oregon is.difficult to find.

Senators Hatfield and Packwood, you are each respectfully seasoned and astout with wilderness legislation. Thank you for this chance to present some new and some familiar perspectives about the Hells Canyon NRA.

I support the passage of S. 1803, and my reasons could be placed into two or maybe three major categories: factual, emotionally factual, and factually emotional. I swear to you and all others present, I do try to view this issue with as much forethought, hindsight, compassion and objectivity as Laurel Rubin can muster. Here are some of the facts I see.

The Hells Canyon NRA is being managed in violation not only of P.L. 94-199's intent...not only the bits and pieces that those of us on different sides interpret differently, but also in violation of very specific, clearly defined management restrictions and methods. Some examples of this with which I am most familiar include:

Clearcuts. I have seen them from the ground and from the air. These are not selective cuts nor shelterwoods, and thus violate both the original HC NRA ACT as well as then Assistant Secretary of Agriculture John Crowell's deviant directive authorizing shelterwood cutting. This situation exists on Horse Creek.

There is obvious stream damage where slash pileup and log skidding took place in a viable anadramous fishery. The original NRA Act prioritizes anadramous fishery maintenance and enhancement. On Lick Creek, this is far from what has been done. Road systems, as they exist plus what is planned, are lengthy, to the tune of 132 miles of new logging roads proposed to be built within S. 1803 proposed wilderness areas in the next five years. Road locations and means of construction have been and no doubt will be at the expense, once again, of several of PL 94-199's mandates, including priority for scenic roading, mining withdrawals, and cultural resource protection. Twelve gravel pits have been excavated for logging road construction. One source of this gravel, Nesbit Butte, is not only a geologically unusual feaaure, but also was an archaeological site that was obliterated by the mining.

The absence of a fisheries biologist and wildlife bioligist plus the plethora of timber management-related personnel well represent the management priorities perpetrated by the NRA staff.

I will more thoroughly cover this in submitted written testimony. Meanwhile, the conclusion I have reached through my awareness of all these problems is three-fold:

Timber management must be more considerate of the fact that this is a NRA and demands attention to all other values as listed in PL 94-199. Also, a limit on timber harvest and designation of additional wilderness are needed.

Recent experience has generated in me some factually-based emotions (or are these ~~emotions~~ emotionally based ~~on~~ facts?) about wilderness in general that I feel are well worth stating here:

For the past 8 months, I have been leading delinquent youth on 21 day primitive survival trips in the deserts of Arizona and Idaho. These kids come from Seattle, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Chicago and other large cities All of them are victims of alcohol or narcotics addictions, kleptomania, school truancy, family upheaval, and the myriad other problems bred by modern-day urban, and to a lesser degree, rural environments.

Wilderness is extremely foreign to nearly all of these kids, and we head out into it without any matches, tents, sleeping bags or backpacks, and with a minimum of clothing and very little food. My responsibility is to teach these initially bitter and reluctant kids how to make themselves comfortable and successful to the best of their ability on this three week journey. I guide them through the wilderness, and as my employer requires, I choose routes away from any signs of development or presence of modern-day humans. This includes roads, shacks, even hunting camps, and as roadless areas diminish, this is becoming increasingly difficult to accomplish.

I want to emphasize the significance of this. I have observed the kids' reactions to man-made features. For example, when we encounter a road, even if it is only a jeep trail, they lose their acceptance of being in this foreign environment. A road generates discussion not of whether we should dig roots that afternoon in order to have food that evening, or where the nearest spring likely is, but rather how far it would be to run away from there. Buildings and other modern signs create a similar distraction and corruption from the reality the kids are in and a temporary setback to their prioritizing values and taking responsibility for themselves and to the group. These setbacks are overcome with time and further immersion into the wilderness. The final effect of these trips on these developing youth is profound. Eighty percent abandon drugs and improve their grades, their family relationships, and their relationships with themselves. Wilderness heals,

Please remember two things. One, these kids come from Washington and are healed in Arizona wilderness; from Illinois and are healed in Idaho wilderness. The preservation of wilderness is far from a local issue. The need for wilderness is national if not global.

Secondly, it is the absence of modern day human intrusions which really sets the hook on the line which leads these kids to recovery. Nothing before has ever made this quite so clear to me, that vast, pure wilderness holds powers that simply aren't present and cannot be created anywhere else. And, as cities and crime rates grow, the need for more of this vast pureness grows, too. Wilderness acres are the physical, emotional, and spiritual vaccine we must stockpile as an epidemic of physical, emotional and spiritual degeneration spreads, touching even Northeastern Oregon.

In Hells Canyon, I know the Wild Horse and Lord Flat areas best, and believe them to be high quality contributions to such a stockpile.

I said in the beginning of my testimony that I do view this issue with compassion, and I mean that. So often, I think about the loggers, mill workers and their families in Wallowa or Elgin or Baker, who hate people like myself because they see me as a selfish, heartless threat to their livlihoods and the quality of their lives. These images fill me with frustration and sorrow not so much for the loss of wilderness and healthy managed forest land that the quality of my life is dependent upon, but rather because I see incredible wasted potential for us, with our differing backgrounds and skills, to come up with some creative solutions to the present lack of employment opportunities, plus the inevitable further loss of jobs in Northeast Oregon, as the trees run out, new wilderness or not. I respect the hardiness and devotion to this area that so many people have for this place, whether or not they are disapproving or threatened by my views. I am every bit as desirous of making a decent living and being able to stay home in Wallowa County to do so as is anyone. We have some very significant things in common, and I hope we will eventually communicate on those grounds.

Senators, I hope my words have renewed or affirmed your committments to securing the most protective legislation possible for Hells Canyon.

Respectfully yours,

Laurel Rubin

Laurel Rubin
Route 1 Box 44E
Wallowa, OR 97885

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

Panel 15, Mr. Jim O'Donnell, Mr. Russ Fredsall, Mr. Gene Crissman, Mr. Scott Horngren, Mr. Robert Peacock and Mr. Irv Fletcher.

You may proceed.

STATEMENT OF JAMES F. O'DONNELL, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, NORTHWEST PINE ASSOCIATION

Mr. O'DONNELL. Thank you, Senators Hatfield and Packwood.

We oppose 1803. Wildlife, particularly Rocky Mountain elk, seem to be a major part of the controversy over what we do with Hells Canyon area.

In a letter dated July 8, 1985, in which we talked about his trip to join the celebration marking the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, Senator Bob Packwood stated the following in regard to timber harvesting and wildlife:

> Those following the management of the area expressed dismay over logging in the recreation area which is inconsistent with the intent of Congress. Timber sales since 1976 have decreased dramatically and future timber harvest schedules call for gradual yearly increases over the next six years. Timber harvest, which irreparably harm some of the most significant scenic and wildlife areas, must be stopped.

The first two of these three statements by Senator Packwood have already been proven to be inaccurate, and I wish to prove the third statement inaccurate as well, particularly the part which states that timber harvest irreparably harm wildlife areas.

According to the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan, elk are presently probably in greater numbers today than at any time in recorded history. The quality of elk herds is better on lands which have undergone intensive forest management and timber harvesting than on lands which have been undermanaged or placed into wilderness.

Cover requirements for Rocky Mountain elk will not be limited by intensive forestry either in hiding cover or thermal cover.

Roads developed for various management strategies do not necessarily impact elk habitat.

Representative Robert Smith in a recent letter to Forest Service Chief Mac Peterson in regard to the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan, had this to say about elk and timber harvesting:

> My analysis of the information available leads me to conclude there is a direct relationship between timber harvest levels and elk production. The relationship is one where elk populations increase as timber harvest increase. We can and should have both increased elk populations and increased timber harvest.

We agree with Congressman Smith.

Northwest Pine Association and Eastern Oregon's timber industries have supported road closures for several years and have found that management of Rocky Mountain elk on their own lands has been greatly enhanced by intensive forestry.

To illustrate this point, I am attaching a chart entitled Comparison of Habitat, National Recreation Area Habitat and Intensively Managed Habitat for Oregion Wildlife Management Units.

As you can see, these four units, namely the Snake River unit representing wilderness, the Imnaha and Pine Creek units representing NRA's and the Sled Springs unit representing intensive management, are all found in the Hells Canyon Area in the northeast corner of Oregon.

The management objectives for elk in the Snake River and the Sled Springs are very similar, with 3,300 animals, desired in the Snake River unit, and 3,000 animals desired in the Sled Springs unit.

The amount of private land varies from a low of five percent in the Snake River unit to 75 percent in the Sled Springs area. Most of the Sled Springs area is intensively managed for timber production but also has seasonal road closures to enhance elk habitat and elk numbers.

What I basically found out was that the cow-calf ratio which is a method of looking at quality of elk habitat were much higher in the intensively managed Sled Springs area. There were 37 calves for 100 cows. In the Pine Creek area there was only 30 calves for 100 cows. And this is consistent throughout the wilderness type management units versus the more forestry oriented units.

I also want to point out that there are other animals in the Hells Canyon area, and I have done this by giving you a demonstration of what happens with the peregrine falcon, which is an endangered species.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. O'Donnell follows:]

TESTIMONY OF
JAMES F. O'DONNELL, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
NORTHWEST PINE ASSOCIATION
SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
ON THE
PROPOSED HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS ADDITION (S.B. NO. 1803)

AUGUST 19, 1986
LA GRANDE, OREGON

Wildlife, particularly Rocky Mountain elk, seem to be a major part of the controversy over what to do with the Hells Canyon area. In a letter dated July 8, 1985, in which he talked about his trip to join the celebration marking the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, Senator Bob Packwood stated the following in regard to timber harvesting and wildlife:

> "Those following the management of the area expressed dismay over logging in the Recreation Area which is inconsistent with the intent of Congress. Timber sales since 1976 have increased dramatically, and future timber harvest schedules call for gradual yearly increases over the next six years. Timber harvest, which irreparably harms some of the most significant scenic and wildlife areas, must be stopped."

The first two of these three statements by Senator Packwood have already been proven to be inaccurate, and I wish to prove the third statement inaccurate as well, particularly the part which states that timber harvests irreparably harm wildlife areas.

According to the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan, "Elk are probably present in greater numbers today than at any time in recorded history." The quality of elk herds is better on lands which have undergone intensive forest management and timber harvesting than on lands which have been under-managed or placed into wilderness. Cover requirements for Rocky Mountain elk will not be limited by intensive forestry either in hiding cover or in thermal cover. Roads developed for various management strategies do not necessarily impact elk habitat.

Representative Robert F. Smith (R-OR), in a recent letter to Forest Service Chief Max Peterson in regard to the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan (Attachment 2), had this to say about elk and timber harvesting:

> "My analysis of the information available leads me to conclude there is a direct relation between timber harvest levels and elk production. The relationship is one where elk populations increase as timber harvests increase. We can and should have both increased elk populations and increased timber harvest."

Northwest Pine Association and Eastern Oregon's timber industry have supported road closures for several years (see Attachment 3) and have found that management of Rocky Mountain elk on their own lands has been greatly enhanced by intensive forestry. To illustrate this point I am attaching a chart entitled "Comparison of Wilderness Habitat, National Recreation Area Habitat and Intensively Managed Habitat of Four Oregon Wildlife Management Units" (see Attachment 4). As you can see, these four units (namely, the Snake River unit representing wilderness, the Imnaha and Pine Creek units representing NRA's and the Sled Springs unit representing intensive management) are all found in the Hells Canyon area in the northeast corner of Oregon. The management objectives for elk in the Snake River and Sled Springs areas are very similar with 3,300 animals desired in the Snake River unit and 3,000 animals desired in the Sled Springs unit. The amount of private land varies from a low of 5 percent in the Snake River unit to 75 percent in the Sled Springs area. Most of the Sled Springs area is intensively managed for timber production but also has seasonal road closures to enhance elk habitat and elk numbers.

The cow/calf ratios for the four units vary from a low of 30 calves per 100 cows in the Pine Creek area (which is part of the NRA) to 45 calves per 100 cows in the Sled Springs area, the intensively managed unit. One measure of the health of an elk herd is the cow/calf ratio. The fact that we have 7 calves per 100 cows more in the intensively managed area than we do in the wilderness area indicates that intensive timber management and the quality of elk herds are not necessarily mutually exclusive. This further indicates that wilderness designation or even limiting timber harvest in the National Recreation Area is not only unnecessary but is probably wasteful of multiple-use resources, particularly hunting opportunities and timber management.

I went one step further and also charted the number of hunters and the 1985 bull elk harvest in these respective units. As this chart clearly indicates, the three units which comprise the Hells Canyon NRA had a total of 2,760 hunters who harvested only 384 bull elk while the Sled Springs unit alone (which is 75 percent private land) had a total of 3,228 hunters who harvested 421 bull elk. This should adequately refute any statements such as those made in Senator Packwood's letter or by some of the uninformed so-called "wildlife experts," even some within the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, in regard to the necessity of curtailing timber harvesting to promote elk habitat.

For those skeptics who feel that this data is inaccurate, a study entitled "Controlled Elk, Deer, Cattle and Timber Studies in the Starkey Experimental Forest and Range" is now underway after being delayed by the very same people who are promoting wilderness designation for Hells Canyon. It should be obvious to all of us who follow these issues that the preservationists' bottom line is stopping the harvest of timber and ruining our regional economy which is based on management of the National Forests. It should also show that they are not really interested in wildlife and its enhancement.

Other wildlife should be considered when dealing with the Hells Canyon issue, particularly animals on the Endangered and Threatened Species List. One of these species is the peregrine falcon. According to Bill Burnham, Director of the World Center for Birds of Prey, ". . . forest management practices provide a setting that makes it relatively easy for the falcons to establish themselves in the wild." Attached is an article entitled "Back From the Brink" (Attachment 5); and I hope that you, Senator Packwood, the other Senators and the House Members who deal with the Endangered Species Act and other issues important to people who are truly concerned about wildlife will read it. The article discusses the "practice of thinning the timber stands (which) helps create an area where the peregrines can hunt for food."

Finally, let's consider that some of the funds used to carry out the work of the World Center for Birds of Prey comes from forest products companies, many of which make this money from harvesting Forest Service timber. A balance must be achieved if we are to retain our wildlife heritage and maintain a viable economy.

Northwest Pine Association has much more to say about the establishment of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area and proposals for further wilderness because of our members' needs for an adequate timber supply. However, I felt that if we could lay to rest the issue of wildlife, wilderness and the NRA, my testimony would be more enlightening for those people who are making crucial decisions about management of our public lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

# # #

Attachment #1

BOB PACKWOOD, OREGON, CHAIRMAN
BOB DOLE, KANSAS
WILLIAM V. ROTH, JR., DELAWARE
JOHN C. DANFORTH, MISSOURI
JOHN H. CHAFEE, RHODE ISLAND
JOHN HEINZ, PENNSYLVANIA
MALCOLM WALLOP, WYOMING
DAVE DURENBERGER, MINNESOTA
WILLIAM L. ARMSTRONG, COLORADO
STEVEN D. SYMMS, IDAHO
CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, IOWA
RUSSELL B. LONG, LOUISIANA
LLOYD BENTSEN, TEXAS
SPARK M. MATSUNAGA, HAWAII
DANIEL PATRICK MOYNIHAN, NEW YORK
MAX BAUCUS, MONTANA
DAVID L. BOREN, OKLAHOMA
BILL BRADLEY, NEW JERSEY
GEORGE J. MITCHELL, MAINE
DAVID PRYOR, ARKANSAS

WILLIAM DIEFENDERFER, CHIEF OF STAFF
MICHAEL STERN, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 8, 1985

Dear Friend:

During my last trip to Oregon I joined in a celebration marking the 10 year anniversary of the establishment of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. Looking out from Buckhorn Point and sharing old stories with friends brought back many warm memories.

It was on December 31, 1975, that the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area was created by law. Passage of that legislation marked a turning point, but not the end, of an important conservation battle. A portion of the powerful Snake River was protected from hydroelectric development and the surrounding canyon was to be managed for ecological and recreational purposes.

However, I learned during my recent trip to Hells Canyon that we have not quite fulfilled our commitment to protect this wild, majestic canyon. Those following the management of the area expressed dismay over logging in the recreation area which is inconsistent with the intent of Congress. Timber sales since 1976 have increased dramatically and future timber harvest schedules call for gradual yearly increases for the next six years. Timber harvests which irreparably harm some of the most significant scenic and wildlife areas must be stopped.

My efforts to protect the Hells Canyon area began long before Congress enacted legislation. I have consistently fought to maintain the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area as it was established in the original bill. I will not now allow short-term economic activities to disrupt the delicate ecological balance in the area, even if I once again am forced to take the legislative route to honor that commitment.

Sincerely,

Bob Packwood
BOB PACKWOOD

BP/mle

ROBERT F. (BOB) SMITH
2D DISTRICT OREGON

COMMITTEE
AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEES
FORESTRY LIVESTOCK AND WHEAT
CHAIRMAN
REPUBLICAN TASK FORCE
ON AGRICULTURE

Attachment #2-A

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE
118 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515
202 225 6730

DISTRICT OFFICES
TOLL FREE 1-800 [illegible]

[illegible] CRATER LAKE AVENUE
SUITE A
MEDFORD OR 97504
503-776-4646

[illegible] PONDEROSA VILLAGE
BURNS OR 97720

July 28, 1986

R. Max Peterson, Chief
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Agriculture
Administration Building
Room 206-E
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Max:

I am writing in connection with the plan for the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest which the Forest Service is developing.

While I believe we should not cut more timber than is biologically substantiated by the Forest Service, I am sure you are aware that an adequate timber sale program on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest is vital to Oregon's social and economic well-being. The decision made by the Forest Service on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest will have significant and long-term impacts on the economies of Wallowa, Union and Baker counties.

The alternative preferred by the Forest Service would significantly reduce the volume of timber offered for sale, especially in the species and sizes industry has historically utilized. However, it will not provide sufficient timber to maintain current production and employment levels in the local timber industry and timber-dependent communities.

The "Community Stability Alternative", developed by the local timber industry as an alternative to the Forest Service's preferred alternative, proposes a chargeable green sawtimber program of 158 million board feet per year in the first decade. This is a level ten percent higher than the allowable sale quantity of the Forest Service's preferred alternative and roughly equivalent to the average volume offered for sale over the previous decade. This proposal, which reflects the local timber industry's estimate of the minimum volume of timber needed from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest to simply maintain the existing timber industry, would include 150 million board feet of ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, larch, white fir and spruce and eight million board feet of lodgepole pine. With the addition of another 25 million board feed of other chargeable volume, the forest's first-decade timber sale program would total 183 million board feet per year. I support the Community Stability Alternative.

Attachment #2-B

One of the debates surrounding the proposed forest plan on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest involves elk populations. Statements of the Forest Service found in the draft environmental impact statement imply that big-game management objectives cannot be met unless the timber program is reduced below current levels. As a result, the preferred alternative of the Forest Service foregoes 2.3 million cubic feet of timber production per year in the first decade due to restrictions on 499,318 acres that are designed to maintain big-game wildlife habitat conditions.

In reviewing the various alternatives set forth by the Forest Service, I note Alternative F shows that 21,550 elk can be sustained while Alternative B shows that 19,980 elk can be sustained. This difference of 1,660 animals is about eight percent. The timber harvest under Alternative F is 100 million board feet per year while the timber harvest under Alternative B is 158 million board feet per year. This is a difference of 58 million board feet per year or 58 percent. To increase the elk numbers by eight percent at the cost of a 58 percent loss in timber harvest is unacceptable to my constituents and me. (In fairness, I must note that the 58 million board feet difference is not entirely due to elk considerations. Nonetheless, the 58 percent reduction is the difference between these two alternatives.)

My analysis of the information available leads me to conclude there is a direct relation between timber harvest levels and elk production. The relationship is one where elk populations increase as timber harvests increase. We can and should have both increased elk populations and increased timber harvest. To support that conclusion I have enclosed three exhibits. Exhibit #1 illustrates that elk numbers increase dramatically as timber harvests increase. Exhibit #2 is a compilation of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department's statistics that illustrates the beneficial effects of timber harvesting on elk production. Exhibit #3 contains the statistics of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department that generated Exhibit #1.

Attachment #2-C

R. Max Peterson, Chief
Page three
July 28, 1986

In conclusion, I trust the Forest Service will adopt a timber sale program adequate to meet the dependent timber industry's minimum log requirements over the next decade. The intent of Congress in connection with the forest planning process is clear: our National Forests are to be managed to ensure the stability of dependent communities. I am sure your decisions will follow Congressional intent.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns and those of my constituents.

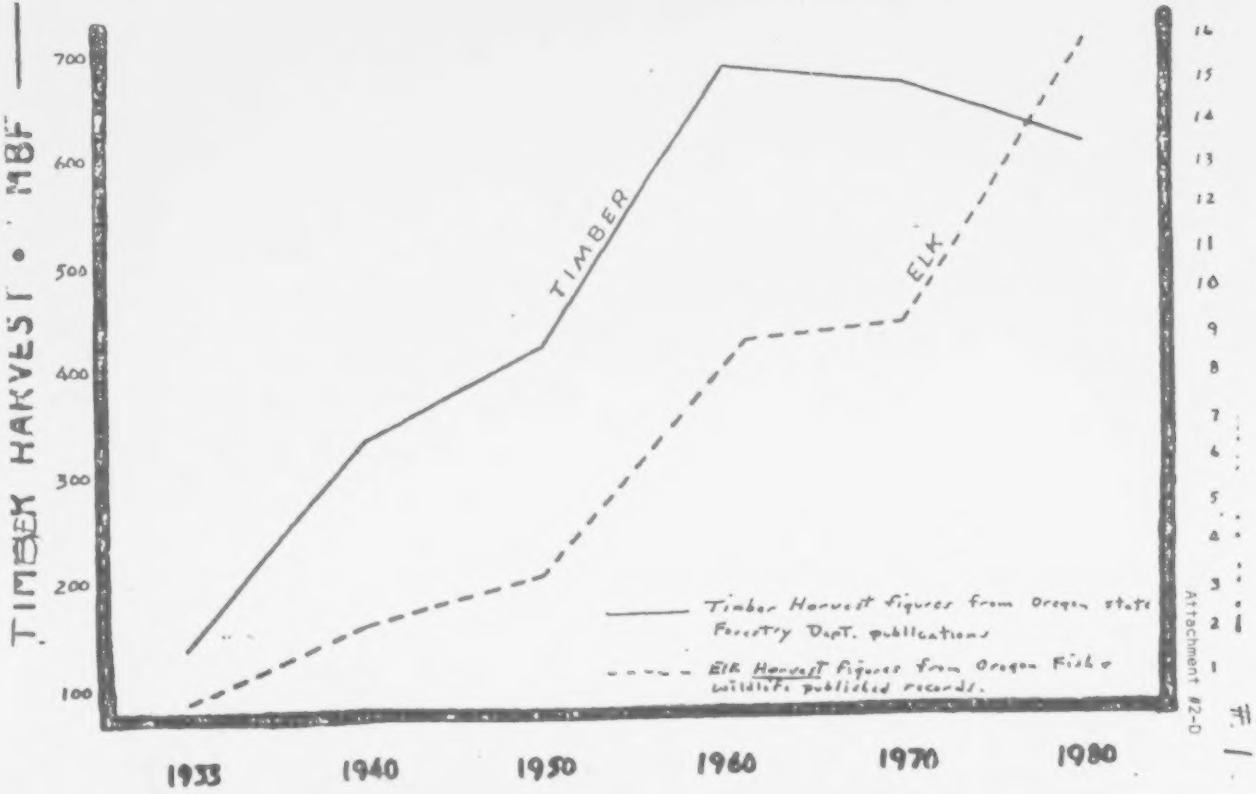
Very truly yours,

Bob

ROBERT F. (BOB) SMITH
Member of Congress

RFS/p

BLUE MOUNTAIN TIMBERSHED #1



Attachment #2-D

Attachment #2-E #2

ELK TRENDS
BIG GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS
IN
NORTHEAST OREGON*

Elk Per Square Mile (Winter Counts)

Big Game Mgf. Unit	10 Year Average	1975 Count	1976 Count	Percent Change 1976 vs. 10 Year Avg.	Percent Change 1976 vs. 1975
Baker[1]	2.0	2.2	3.2	+ 60%	+ 45%
Catherine Creek[1]	3.3	4.3	3.1	- 6%	- 28%
Chesnimaus[1]	7.5	9.4	11.3	+ 51%	+ 20%
Desolation[2]	5.4	8.7	6.4	+ 19%	- 25%
Heppner[1]	7.3	11.9	12.7	+ 74%	+ 7%
Imnaha[2]	2.5	3.3	2.7	+ 8%	- 19%
Keating	1.2	1.8	?	?	?
Lookout Mtn.	--	--	--	--	--
Minam[2]	6.3	8.3	8.6	+ 37%	+ 4%
Murderer's Cr.	1.3	2.2	?	?	?
Northside[1]	0.7	1.2	1.5	+114%	+ 25%
Pine Creek[2]	2.6	2.6	2.3	- 12%	- 22%
Sled Springs[1]	11.0	12.6	15.0	+ 36%	+ 19%
Snake River[2]	8.6	9.2	8.9	+ 3%	- 3%
Starkey[1]	13.5	16.4	19.5	+ 44%	+ 19%
Ukiah[1]	25.8	45.8	48.5	+ 88%	+ 6%
Umatilla[2]	19.6	26.4	33.6	+ 71%	+ 27%
Walla Walla[2]	18.7	16.1	19.9	+ 6%	+ 24%
Wenaha[2]	14.8	15.3	17.0	+ 15%	+ 11%

*Oregon Department Fish and Wildlife Data, May, 1976, La Grande, Oregon

[1] Most of the forestland has been roaded and the forest stands have been logged in at least once in the following units:

	Elk Trends
Baker	+ 60%
Catherine Creek	- 6%
Chesnimaus	+ 51%
Heppner	+ 74%
Northside	+114%
Sled Springs	+ 36%

	Elk Trends
Starkey	+ 44%
Ukiah	+ 88%

Average = 53% increase in elk since 1967

* [2] Most of the forestland is currently unroaded and little logging has taken place in the following units:

	Elk Trends
Desolation	+ 19%
Minam	+ 37%
Snake River	+ 3%
Umatilla	+ 71%
Walla Walla	+ 6%
Wenaha	+ 15%

	Elk Trends
Pine Creek	- 12%
Imnaha	+ 8%

Average = 18% increase in elk since 1967

Attachment #2-F #3

TABLE 14. HISTORICAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK HUNTING RECORD

		ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK			
		TAKE			
YEAR	TOTAL HUNTERS	BULLS	ANTLERLESS	TOTAL	TOTAL SUCCESS
1933	2,440	579	0	579	24%
1940	4,809	1,152	1,179	2,331	48%
1945	7,270	2,176	67	2,243	31%
1950	16,726	2,210	1,234	3,444	21%
1955	21,504	3,361	1,749	5,110	24%
1961	36,514	7,098	1,863	8,961	25%
1962	39,432	6,460	1,925	8,385	21%
1963	41,216	6,959	3,606	10,565	26%
1964	41,010	7,576	4,879	12,455	30%
1965	47,651	5,768	3,594	9,362	20%
1966	49,504	5,529	3,189	8,718	15%
1967	46,100	5,220	2,690	7,910	17%
1968	45,600	4,170	1,980	6,150	13%
1969	46,300	5,800	2,080	7,880	17%
1970	52,190	6,920	2,420	9,340	16%
1971	51,640	5,330	2,260	7,590	15%
1972	53,700	5,742	2,188	7,930	15%
1973	65,100	7,626	2,735	10,361	16%
1974	69,100	6,628	4,036	10,664	15%
1975	73,280	7,393	3,476	10,869	15%
1976	64,970	7,389	2,838	10,227	16%
1977	73,580	9,318	3,696	13,014	15%
1978	67,389	7,287	5,063	12,350	18%
1979	68,718	6,444	5,091	11,535	17%
1980	74,655	9,279	6,672	15,951	21%
1981	77,934	7,578	7,496	15,074	19%

ATTACHMENT #3

NORTHWEST PINE ASSOCIATION
RESOLUTION: Road Closures

WHEREAS in the undeveloped forest of mature and overmature trees, there is little forage growing beneath the forest canopy, thus providing minimal big game habitat; and

WHEREAS by carefully removing the overstory trees, selectively or in groups, more light can reach the ground; and growth of more shrubs, grasses, forbs, brush and wildlife forage is available; and

WHEREAS roads built for the purpose of multiple-use access as well as routes for fire protection could, in some cases, allow disturbance of big game during calving periods, hunting seasons and on winter ranges:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of Northwest Pine Association support seasonal or temporary road closures following roading and logging of undeveloped areas so that big game animals will not be unduly disturbed by the improved access which roads provide.

Passed unanimously by membership on March 28, 1980.

ATTACHMENT #4

COMPARISON OF WILDERNESS HABITAT, NATIONAL RECREATION AREA HABITAT AND INTENSIVELY MANAGED HABITAT OF FOUR OREGON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS

UNIT NAME	ELK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES	COW/ CALF RATIO	PERCENTAGE OF PRIVATE LANDS IN UNIT
Snake River (Wilderness)	3,300	37	5
Imnaha (NRA*)	1,250	44	10
Pine Creek (NRA*)	800	30	15
Sled Springs (Intensive Management)	3,000	45	75

* National Recreation Area

1985 BULL ELK HARVEST SEASON

UNIT NAME	TOTAL HUNTERS	BULL HARVEST SUCCESS
Snake River	889	155
Imnaha	1,115	132
Pine Creek	756	97
Sled Springs	3,228	421

NORTHWEST PINE ASSOCIATION
8/19/86

SOURCE: 1986 Big Game Statistics, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, Wildlife Division

The Peregrine Falcon

Back From The Brink

Boise Cascade is helping bring the endangered peregrine falcon back from the brink of extinction.

Soaring a thousand feet above the canyon floor, a peregrine falcon eyes a starling flying hundreds of feet below. Suddenly, the peregrine, its wings swept back along its body, dives on the unsuspecting prey. At nearly 200 miles an hour, the peregrine, thrusting its talons forward at the last moment, strikes the starling, killing it instantly. As the starling plummets toward the ground, the peregrine circles back and snatches the dead bird in midair.

Until recently, a peregrine hunting food in its natural environment had become a rare sight. Primarily due to extensive use of the pesticide DDT, the peregrine had vanished from the Eastern U.S. by the mid-1960s, and all but a few peregrines had disappeared from the Western states by the mid-'70s. DDT, now banned in this country, became highly concentrated in the peregrines' food chain — first in the insects that the pesticide was designed to control, then in the birds that ate the insects, and finally in the peregrines that ate those birds. The chemical weakened the shells of the eggs laid by the falcons. Then, when the female peregrine nested on the eggs during the incubation period, the eggs broke, killing the peregrine young inside.

But thanks to the efforts of scientists, naturalists, falconers, and several large corporations, birds of prey like the peregrine falcon are being brought back from the brink of extinction. Boise Cascade is one of the companies that continue to play a key role in saving these magnificent creatures.

Since 1981, the company has sponsored a peregrine release site on its timberlands near Cascade, Idaho. There, amid the routine activities of growing and cutting the trees used at the company's nearby wood products plants, 23 young peregrine falcons have been released to live and reproduce again in their natural surroundings.

At the World Center for Birds of Prey, peregrine falcons are raised from the time they hatch until they are 35 days old. (Top) A few hours old, a peregrine lies near an unhatched peregrine egg. (Bottom) Falcon breeding specialists at the center feed the young peregrines a diet of ground quail.

ATTACHMENT #5-A

FROM: Boise Cascade Corporation "Insight," August 1986

(Top, far left) A young peregrine falcon is prepared to enter one of the hack boxes on Boise Cascade's property near Cascade, Idaho. The hack box will be the peregrine's home base for several weeks as the young bird makes the transition to its natural environment. (Bottom, far left) Another hack box at the Cascade site rests high atop a 20-foot tower. (Left) Just over a month old, this peregrine is ready to begin the release process, making it one of over 1,700 peregrines bred and raised in captivity, then released in the U.S. during the last 12 years.

"We've been able to release peregrines more successfully from the Cascade site than from any other release location in the West," said Bill Burnham, director of the World Center for Birds of Prey located just south of Boise, Idaho.

Peregrines and other birds of prey are bred at the center and then are taken to release sites before they can fly. The peregrines learn to fly within ten days and make their way into the forests a couple of months later.

"The Cascade location and Boise Cascade's forest management practices provide a setting that makes it relatively easy for the falcons to establish themselves in the wild," Burnham said. "The logging activities your company conducts near the release site are advantageous to the birds. For instance, your practice of thinning the timber stands helps create an area where the peregrines can hunt for food."

The company has benefited as well from its efforts to help save the peregrine from extinction.

"The success we've had releasing peregrines on our land has helped us demonstrate that our forest management practices allow man and wildlife to coexist," said Ralph Peinecke, vice president of Timberland Resources. "And we haven't had to change those practices to accommodate the peregrines. In all the forests we manage, we're continually trying to balance what we take from the land with what we put back — whether that's replanting seedlings to ensure a future supply of timber or helping bring back an endangered species like the peregrine falcon."

Although the peregrine remains on the endangered species list, its chances of living and reproducing again in its natural environment are greatly increased thanks to the cooperative efforts of a diverse group of individuals and organizations.

— *Andrew Drysdale*

(Above) Morley Nelson, world-renowned falconer and conservationist, has spent over 40 years studying and enjoying birds of prey and teaching others about these marvelous creatures and the plight they face. (Left) Bill Burnham, director of the World Center for Birds of Prey, is one of many dedicated individuals responsible for saving the peregrine falcon and other birds of prey from extinction.

STATMENT OF RUSS FREDSALL, DIRECTOR, RESOURCES, WESTERN WOOD PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION

Mr. **Fredsall**. Senators Hatfield and Packwood, I am Russ Fredsall, Portland, Oregon, Director of Resources, representing Western Wood Products Association.

I have three points to offer in summary.

First, from our experience we are aware the National Recreation Areas are multiple use areas with a dominant outdoor recreation use, as with wildlife refuses, where all other uses are secondary to wildlife.

Wilderness is one of these ancillary uses in NRA's as well as in refuses. Wilderness is biocentric and requires no human presence whatsoever.

What is needed is more emphasis on accessible dispersed and developed site recreation. The demographics of national forest recreation clientele reveal that this population is aging and much less inclined to endure long, strenuous hikes than a decade ago.

Secondly, the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest is proposing to reduce the current allowable forest by 40 million board feet, or 22 percent. This is unacceptable and in conjunction with this S.B. 1832 is a critical threat to the viability of the tributary economies in Northeastern Oregon.

Thirdly, Prior to enactment of Public Law 94-199 in 1975, Members of Congress hammered out a difficult but mutually acceptable compromise bill that considered all the ramifications of the appropriate balance between dominant use, non-wilderness, multiple uses and wilderness.

A barriage of appeals followed over the ensuing six years and were finally resolved.

All this travail of long, arduous democratic processes need not be prolonged since Hells Canyon areas were further evaluated and found unnecessary during the debate on the Oregon wilderness of 1984.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Fredsall follows:]

STATEMENT OF RUS FREDSALL, DIRECTOR, RESOURCES
WESTERN WOOD PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION, PORTLAND, OREGON
TO THE
PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
ON
HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA WILDERNESS PROPOSALS
S.B.1803

MR. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE, I AM RUS FREDSALL, DIRECTOR, RESOURCES, WESTERN WOOD PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION, 1500 YEON BUILDING, PORTLAND, OREGON, 97204. OUR ASSOCIATION REPRESENTS LUMBER MANUFACTURERS IN OREGON AND THROUGHOUT THE WESTERN STATES. OUR MEMBERS DEPEND UPON A CONTINUOUS SUPPLY OF FEDERAL TIMBER TO SATISFY THE DEMAND FOR OREGON FOREST PRODUCTS WHICH ARE FOREMOST IN THE NATION. WE ARE, AND INTEND TO CONTINUE AS, THE NO. 1 BASIC INDUSTRY SUPPORTING THE ECONOMY OF THIS STATE.

OVER MY CAREER AS A PROFESSIONAL FORESTER, I HAVE DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE TIME AND THOUGHT TO THE STUDY OF OUTDOOR RECREATION AND WILDERNESS INCLUDING PARTICIPATION IN THE ORRC AND PLLRC PROCESSES AND THE PLANNING AND SURVEYS OF THE BUREAU OF OUTDOOR RECREATION. FROM ALL THIS EXPERIENCE, I UNDERSTAND THAT NRA'S ARE MULTIPLE USE AREAS WITH DOMINANT RECREATION USE SIMILAR TO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES WHERE MULTIPLE USE IS PRACTICED BUT WILDLIFE

MANAGEMENT ALWAYS PREVAILS IN CASE OF CONFLICTS AND REMAINS THE DOMINANT USE. ALSO IN NRA'S SUBSIDIARY MULTIPLE USES ARE MANAGED TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY DO NOT CONFLICT WITH THE DOMINANT USE OF OUTDOOR RECREATION. WILDERNESS IS ONE OF THE SECONDARY USES NOT NECESSARILY COMPATIBLE WITH RECREATION AREAS WHICH, BY DEFINITION, ARE PURPOSEFULLY MANAGED FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF THE OUTDOORS BY PEOPLE. WILDERNESS, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS STRICTLY BIOCENTRIC AND DELIBERATELY MANAGED TO MAINTAIN ECOSYSTEMS IN AN UNDISTURBED, PRIMITIVE ENVIRONMENT. WILDERNESS, PROPERLY PRESERVED, NEED NOT INCLUDE THE PRESENCE OF HUMAN VISITORS AT ALL.

AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, WE HAVE OBSERVED SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL WILDERNESS SYSTEM THAT WILDERNESS IS NOT NECESSARILY CONFORMING TO THE ACT OF 1964 AS FEDERAL POLICY DEFINES IT. RATHER, WILDERNESS IS WHATEVER CONGRESS SAYS IT IS. STUMPS, STRUCTURES INCLUDING BUILDINGS, ROADS, FENCES, DIGGINGS AND EXOTIC OR DOMESTIC PLANTS AND ANIMALS ARE ALL SWALLOWED UP BY WILDERNESS BUT EVIDENCE OF PAST HUMAN ACTIVITIES ARE IRRELEVANT ONCE INCLUDED. "MANUFACTURED WILDERNESS" THE SIERRA CLUB CALLS IT IN CONTRADICTION OF TERMS. ALL THE HISTORIC CABINS AND HOMESTEADS ARE USUALLY ELIMINATED - BY SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION PERHAPS. THE PRESENCE OF HUMANS IS NOT NECESSARY OR EVEN DESIRABLE AS A CONDITION OF WILDERNESS MAINTENANCE. WILDERNESS RANGERS GET SO LONESOME IT IS NOT UNCOMMON FOR A SOLITUDE SEEKING VISITOR TO BE OBLIGED TO LISTEN TO THE LITANY OF ROTE ADMONISHMENTS ABOUT WILDERNESS REGULATIONS AT LEAST 3 OR 4 TIMES EACH DAY. SUCH

ENCOUNTERS WITH WELL MEANING BUT OFTEN OFFICIOUS AND UNKNOWLEDGEABLE EMPLOYEES TEND TO FRAGMENT AND SOMETIMES SPOIL THE WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE ALTOGETHER.

In retrospect, recent past history has shown that the establishment of Wilderness within areas dedicated to a non-wilderness dominant use raise serious questions of compatibility. Management direction in National Wildlife Refuges for example is a multiple use approach often diametrically opposed to Wilderness management guidelines. Such conservation/preservation conflicts are also inevitable when National Recreation Areas have disproportionately large areas of Wilderness that negate many outdoor recreation opportunities in these ostensibly multiple use oriented NRA's. The principle of maximum net public benefits should be the goal in NRA management with primary emphasis on accessible dispersed and developed site recreation. The demographics of national forest recreation clientele reveal that this population is aging and much less inclined to endure long, strenuous hikes than a decade ago.

The Forest Service method of ranking areas according to Wilderness attributes does not take into account nonwilderness values which may be much greater in aggregate potential net public benefits. Our past experience with theoretically multiple use-oriented NRA's from a forestry perspective is that there is little or no timber expected to be forthcoming from these areas.

Unfortunately, in the case of HCNRA this is threatening to be a self-fulfilling prophecy. If ever there was a critical need for a national recreation area to be managed as a multiple use showpiece along with the dominant recreation emphasis, HCNRA is the place.

This area needs a viable and reliable source of timber to bolster the economies of communities tributary to these federal lands more desperately than any other locale in the West. If plagues of insects aren't eating up the forests, fires are burning them down. There is a substantial, productive timber resource potential in northeastern Oregon if only it could be managed with the skill and care it deserves. The latest plague being inflicted upon these federal land-dependent communities (except for the immediate necessity of suppressing wildfires) is the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan which proposes a 40 million board foot, or 22% reduction in the current allowable harvest. We can find no substantive Forest Service justification for this drastic action but, that is what they are proposing to do. Now we are faced with a compounding of these threats to economic viability by this proposal in S.B.1803. If enacted, and coupled with the combined effect of reduced productivity presented in the forest plan preferred alternative, it could predictably close one sawmill and curtail others.

Throughout the deliberations leading to enactment of P.L. 94-199, THE HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA ACT OF 1975 AND THE SUBSEQUENT CONTROVERSY OVER THE COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN, THERE WERE REPEATED EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN ABOUT THE ADVERSE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES TO WALLOWA AND BAKER COUNTIES IN OREGON, AS WELL AS FOR THE THREE IDAHO COUNTIES INVOLVED. IN FINAL RESOLUTION OF THE LITANY OF APPEALS ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, JOHN B. CROWELL, JR., RENDERED A DECISION REVISING THE SUBJECT PLAN AS QUOTED IN THE FOLLOWING EXCERPT:

> "THE LAST TWO SENTENCES ON PAGE 2 OF THE COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN ARE DELETED AND THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES SUBSTITUTED. "THE PLAN SHALL BE REVISED OR AMENDED WHENEVER (1) THE FOREST SUPERVISOR DETERMINES THAT CONDITIONS OR DEMANDS OF THE PUBLIC IN THE AREA COVERED BY THE PLAN HAVE CHANGED SIGNIFICANTLY OR (2) WHEN ANY FOREST PLAN OR FOREST PLANS ADOPTED FOR THE WALLOWA-WHITMAN, NEZPERCE OR PAYETTE NATIONAL FORESTS SETS A TIMBER HARVEST LEVEL OR ANY OTHER OUTPUT LEVEL WHICH ALONE OR IN COMBINATION WITH THE FOREST PLAN FOR ONE OR MORE OF THOSE FORESTS MIGHT HAVE A SIGNIFICANTLY ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE ECONOMY OF WALLOWA COUNTY OR BAKER COUNTY IN OREGON OR ADAMS COUNTY, IDAHO COUNTY OR NEZPERCE COUNTY IN IDAHO. IF REVISION OR AMENDMENT OCCURS BECAUSE OF THE SECOND OF THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED CONDITIONS, EVERY REASONABLE EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ELIMINATE OR MITIGATE THE SIGNIFICANTLY ADVERSE EFFECT ON

THE ECONOMY OF THE AFFECTED COUNTY OR COUNTIES BY REVISING OR AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN."

ALL THREE OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED NATIONAL FORESTS ARE PROPOSING DRAFT FOREST PLANS WHICH WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE THE VOLUME OF AVAILABLE TIMBER BELOW CURRENT LEVELS. THIS CONSIDERATION ALONE IS ENOUGH TO VERIFY THAT MORE, RATHER THAN LESS, TIMBER SHOULD BE FORTHCOMING FROM THE NRA AND MORE WILDERNESS WHICH WOULD FURTHER ERODE THE EXISTING PRODUCTIVE TIMBERLAND BASE IS CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE. THE HCNRA COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PRESENTLY PROVIDES FOR A "BROAD RANGE OF LAND USES AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES" AS PRESCRIBED IN P.L. 94-199 SO, WE BELIEVE THE PROPOSALS IN S.B.1803 ARE UNNECESSARY AND INAPPROPRIATE.

THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSES INCLUDING THE DELIBERATIONS OF CONGRESS AND MORE THAN 20 APPEALS ON THE HCNRA PLAN PURSUANT TO P.L. 94-199, IT WAS THE CONSIDERED JUDGMENT OF THE CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE AND THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE THAT THE AREA HAS SUFFICIENT WILDERNESS IN BALANCE WITH OTHER RESOURCE USES INCLUDING THE PRIMARY, DOMINANT USE OF OUTDOOR RECREATION. PRIOR TO ENACTMENT OF P.L. 94-199 IN 1975, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAMMERED OUT A DIFFICULT BUT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE, COMPROMISE BILL THAT CONSIDERED ALL THE RAMIFICATIONS OF THE APPROPRIATE BALANCE BETWEEN LIMITED USE, DOMINANT USE, NONWILDERNESS MULTIPLE USES AND WILDERNESS. ALL THIS TRAVAIL OF LONG AND ARDUOUS DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES NEED NOT BE PROLONGED

SINCE HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS WAS FURTHER EVALUATED AND FOUND UNNECESSARY DURING THE DEBATE ON THE OREGON WILDERNESS BILL OF 1984. WE URGE THE COMMITTEE TO REJECT THE PROPOSALS OF S.B.1803 REGARDING ADDITIONAL WILDERNESS WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO HCNRA AND ALSO SPECIFICALLY TO REJECT THE PROPOSED 1 MMBF CAP ON ANNUAL TIMBER HARVEST FROM THE NRA AS INAPPROPRIATE TOWARD MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON.

THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON S.B.1803. PLEASE INCLUDE THIS TESTIMONY AS PART OF THE HEARING RECORD.

RUS FREDSALL
DIRECTOR, RESOURCES
WESTERN WOOD PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION
1500 YEON BUILDING
PORTLAND, OREGON 97204

STATEMENT OF GENE CRISSMAN, PRESIDENT, CRISSTAD ENTERPRISES

Mr. CRISSMAN. My name is Gene Crissman. And I am President of Crisstad Enterprises in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in the LaGrande area.

Thank you, Senators, for showing up and hearing our side of this question.

I have three points I would like to bring up, too.

The first one concerns about the impact on jobs. And this has already been covered by quite a few other people. But we have a first hand case considering jobs.

In 1984 a wilderness bill was passed and our company has reduced its personnel since then by 70 percent. It has had sales loss of 75 percent.

Although the market has been a big contributor, also the loss of a long term supply of raw material has created a situation where purchasers no longer consider our company a viable supplier of raw material.

The second point is that whenever two groups get together, the wilderness advocates have said that wilderness creates jobs. And as a result of the past three weeks there is proof that unmanaged forests do create employment but only on a short term emergency basis and does not contribute to a long term employment stability.

My third point is that new and improved facilities cannot and will not be built with a scenario of instability the timber industry now labors with.

A classic example of this instability is in the 1984 problems by Mr. Hatfield, made to us, that the 1984 wilderness bill would contain language restricting any future wilderness proposals for ten years.

Time does pass quickly, and by your very presence here today makes me feel that you have somehow violated a trust with us. Thus adding one more nail to the timber coffin.

Senator PACKWOOD. Let me add one thing. This is may bill, not Senator Hatfield's bill.

Mr. CRISSMAN. I understand.

Senator PACKWOOD. When he put in his bill in 1984, he meant what he said.

But I did not say that and he is not in any way responsible for my introducing this bill, and you shouldn't assume my liabilities on him.

Senator HATFIELD. When you attack one, you attack both on this team.

STATEMENT OF SCOTT HORNGREN, WESTERN FOREST INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Mr. HORNGREN. Good morning, Senators.

My name is Scott Horngren from Western Forest Industries.

I am here asking your help in convincing the Forest Service to keep a promise. It was a promise made to the members of the Congressional delegation. It was a promise to citizens who like and work in the counties next to the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. And so far the promise hasn't been kept.

The promise was to reconsider the management within the Hells Canyon NRA if there was potential for adverse economic affects in the community.

The Comprehensive Management Plan for the Hells Canyon NRA was completed in '81 and reduced the potential timber yield there by 50 percent.

The final plan sparked 19 appeals at least. Among the appellants were many groups whose livelihood depends on resources in the NRA.

The appellants objected to the Forest Service attempt to drive out existing uses in the NRA, contrary to the intent of the Hells Canyon legislation.

Senator Hatfield shared some of the appellants' concerns. In a letter to the Department of Agriculture Hatfield said:

> While I feel that, in general, the Agency has done a good job of developing a Management Plan for the NRA, I believe the plan lacks the balance intended by the enabling legislation. I regret that I must inform you of my disappointment and my feeling of frustration—at the apparent lack of sensitivity on the part of the Agency to the concerns which have been raised.

In 1984 the Department of Agriculture sought to defuse these appeals by upholding the Forest Service preferred alternative for the NRA Comprehensive Plan.

However, the Department promised to re-evaluate the land allocations and management if subsequent events created a potential for adverse economic effects.

This appeal decision stated "The plan shall be revised or amended whenever the Forest Supervisor determines that conditions or demands of the public in the area have changed significantly or when any Forest Plan adopted for the Wallowa-Whitman, Nez Perce, or Payette National Forests sets a timber harvest level that might have a significantly adverse effect on the economies of Wallowa, Baker, Adams or Nez Perce Counties.

This decision was consistent with an exchange between Chief Peterson and Congressman Denny Smith concerning re-evaluation of the plan.

Smith asked the Forest Service to agree to, "re-evaluate the NRA Comprehensive Plan allocations in the new upcoming Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan. This would include the evaluation of a more intensive management strategy for NRA commercial forest acres."

Chief Peterson replied to Congressman Smith: "I agree that the timber allocations, including those for more intensive timber management . . . will be re-evaluated during the development of the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan."

Peterson's statement amounts to an empty promise, because when the draft Wallowa-Whitman Plan was released this spring, the timber allocations for the NRA had not been re-evaluated and remained the same in every alternative considered in the Forest Plan.

In conclusion, the Forest Service has failed to keep their promise to the individuals and groups who appealed the Hells Canyon plan. They have failed to keep their promise to the elected officials. They have failed to keep their promise to the citizens and counties adjacent to the NRA.

It is time for the Forest Service to stop breaking and start keeping its promises.

And we ask your help in seeking a re-evaluation of the Hells Canyon land allocations and resource management in the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan as promised by the Forest Service, especially in light of the wilderness bill and the reductions in the plan.

Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Horngren follows:]

TESTIMONY OF

SCOTT HORNGREN
TIMBER SUPPLY SPECIALIST,
WESTERN FOREST INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

BEFORE THE

PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
SENATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
ABOUT HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS
S.B. 1803

Western Forest Industries Association represents small business forest products companies dependent upon National Forests for raw material. Our members have struggled through the lumber market depression and plan to remain in the Northwest far into the future. However, continued supply of National Forest timber is a key element to a healthy future.

I am here today to ask your help in convincing the Forest Service to keep a promise. It was a promise made to members of the congressional delegation. It was a promise to citizens who live and work in the counties next to the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA). So far the promise has not been kept. The promise was to reconsider the management with in the Hells Canyon NRA if there was potential for adverse economic effects in the community.

The Comprehensive Management Plan for the Hells Canyon NRA was completed in 1981 and reduced the potential timber yield over fifty percent. The final plan sparked 19 appeals. Among the appellants was the Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce and many other groups and individuals whose livlihood depends on resources in the Hells Canyon NRA. The appellants objected to the Forest Service attempt to drive out existing uses from the NRA contrary to the intent of the Hells Canyon legislation. Senator Hatfield shared some of the appellant's concerns. In a letter to the Department of Agriculture Hatfield said,

> "While I feel that, in general, the agency has done a good job of developing a management plan for the NRA, I believe the plan lacks the balance intended by the enabling legislation. I regret that I must inform you of my disappointment and my feeling of frustration...at the apparent lack of sensitivity on the part of the agency to the concerns which have been raised." (Exhibit 1).

Hatfield continued:

> "As far as the allocation issue is concerned,

> the Congress included rather expansive boundaries for the NRA, but did not intend that the entire area should be managed only for its recreational potential. It is likely that the current plan for such areas will result in no gain for recreation, just substantial losses in timber harvest." (Exhibit 1).

The lengthy appeals process took about three years to complete. In 1984, the Department of Agriculture sought to diffuse the appeal by upholding the Forest Service preferred alternative for the NRA Comprehensive Plan. However, the Department promised to reevaluate the land allocations and management if subsequent events created a potential for adverse economic effects. The appeal decision stated:

> "The plan shall be revised or amended whenever (1) the Forest Supervisor determines that conditions or demands of the public in the area have changed significantly or (2) when any Forest Plan adopted for the Wallowa-Whitman, Nezperce, or Payette National Forests sets a timber harvest level...[that] might have a significantly adverse effect on the" economies of Wallowa, Baker, Adams, or Nez Perce counties. "[E]very reasonable effort will be made to eliminate or mitigate the significantly adverse effect on the economy of the...counties by revising or amending the Comprehensive Management Plan." (Exhibit 2).

This decision was consistent with an exchange between Chief Peterson and Congressman Denny Smith concerning reevaluation of the plan. Smith asked the Forest Service to agree to :

> "Re-evaluate the NRA Comprehensive Plan allocations in the new upcoming Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan. This would include the evaluation of a more intensive timber management strategy for NRA commercial forest acres." (Exhibit 3).

Chief Peterson replied:

> "I agree that the timber allocations, including those for more intensive timber management...will be reevaluated during the development of the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan." (Exhibit 4).

Peterson's statement amounts to an empty promise because when the draft Wallowa-Whitman Plan was released this spring, the timber allocations for the NRA had not been reevaluated and remained the same in every alternative considered in the Forest Plan.

In addition, the Draft Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan proposed over a 40 MMBF reduction in regulated timber volume. The adverse economic effects of this reduction were of great concern to local counties and the Governor. The potential adverse effects are more than enough to trigger the reevaluation of NRA management promised in the appeal decision for the NRA Comprehensive Plan.

Reevaluation of the NRA management is also necessitated by the new wilderness proposals. S.B. 1803 would triple the amount of wilderness on the Oregon side of the NRA. Permitted uses would be substantially altered. Thus, the wilderness proposal qualifies as a "significant change" under the terms of the appeal decision and reevaluation of the NRA management is required.

In conclusion, the Forest Service has failed to keep their promise to the individuals and groups who appealed the Hells Canyon Comprehensive Management Plan. They have failed to keep their promise to elected officials. They have failed to keep their promise to the citizens of the counties adjacent to the National Recreation Area. Its time for the Forest Service to stop breaking and start keeping its promises. We ask your help in seeking a reevaluation of the Hells Canyon land allocations and resource management in the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan as promised by the Forest Service.

EXHIBIT 1

MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG., CHAIRMAN

TED STEVENS, ALASKA
LOWELL P. WEICKER, JR., CONN.
JAMES A. MC CLURE, IDAHO
PAUL LAXALT, NEV.
JAKE GARN, UTAH
HARRISON SCHMITT, N. MEX.
THAD COCHRAN, MISS.
MARK ANDREWS, N. DAK.
JAMES ABDNOR, S. DAK.
ROBERT W. KASTEN, JR., WIS.
ALFONSE M. D'AMATO, N.Y.
MACK MATTINGLY, GA.
WARREN RUDMAN, N.H.
ARLEN SPECTER, PA.

WILLIAM PROXMIRE, WIS.
JOHN C. STENNIS, MISS.
ROBERT C. BYRD, W. VA.
DANIEL K. INOUYE, HAWAII
ERNEST F. HOLLINGS, S.C.
THOMAS F. EAGLETON, MO.
LAWTON CHILES, FLA.
J. BENNETT JOHNSTON, LA.
WALTER D. HUDDLESTON, KY.
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK.
PATRICK J. LEAHY, VT.
JIM SASSER, TENN.
DENNIS DE CONCINI, ARIZ.
DALE BUMPERS, ARK.

J. KEITH KENNEDY, STAFF DIRECTOR
THOMAS L. VAN DER VOORT, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 13, 1982

The Honorable John Crowell Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Natural Resources and Environment
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear John:

As you may know, my staff and I have been in contact with the Forest Service on several occasions during the past year about the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

While I feel that, in general, the agency has done a good job in developing a management plan for the NRA, I believe the plan lacks the balance intended by the enabling legislation. I regret that I must inform you of my disappointment and my feeling of frustration, which I am sure is shared by others who have proposed changes in the plan, at the apparent lack of sensitivity on the part of the agency to the concerns which have been raised.

For example, the NRA clearly contemplated continuing timber harvesting in the area. Specifically, Section 7 states as one of its objectives:

> "such management, utilization, and disposal of natural resources on federally owned lands, including but not limited to, timber harvesting by selective cutting, mining, and grazing and the continuation of such existing uses and developments as are compatible with the provisions of the Act."

I do not believe the management plan, as approved by the Chief, meets this objective. The Forest Service has interpreted "selective cutting" in this Act to preclude any even-aged timber management within the NRA, and it has failed to allocate any of the lands for timber management. As I have attempted to point out previously, the selective cutting language was meant to indicate that the emphasis for timber harvesting within the area should not be clearcutting, although even that option is not entirely excluded since the bill lists selective cutting only as one practice which could be "included" but to which the agency is not "limited".

As far as the allocation issue is concerned, the Congress included rather expansive boundaries for the NRA, but did not intend that the entire area should be managed only for its recreational potential. In fact, many of the areas were harvested prior to passage of the NRA Act without adverse impact on the other uses; it is likely that the current plan for such areas will result in no gain for recreation, just substantial losses in timber harvest. Some of these areas are allocated for dispersed recreation/timber, but it is doubtful that much timber will be harvested in them, given the plan's current constraints.

In response to the concerns I have previously expressed about this matter, the Forest Service has expressed appreciation for my view of the legislative history and has assured me that the plan will have minimal economic impact. I have also been advised that the relationship of selective cutting to clearcutting will be further considered. It appears, however, that there has been little serious consideration of these issues since the plan was first proposed.

While I am referring specifically to the timber issue because of its obvious impact upon the local community, other concerns have been raised, including impact upon grazing and upon private lands. I understand that the Chief's decision is currently under appeal and that several of the appellants have requested that you hear an oral presentation about their concerns. I urge you to respond favorably to that request.

Your consideration of these views is most appreciated.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Mark O. Hatfield
United States Senator

MOH:til

USDA 2-MAY-84 16:20:36 360 1

: FSR6-WAW
om: FSR6-REC
te: WLD 2-MAY-84 16:20:36 edt
ject: Hells Canyon NRA from Joe Higgins, RO

EXHIBIT 2

: Comprehensive Management Plan for Hells Canyon National Recreation
ea Appeals from Revised Record of Decision by Chief, Forest Service, of
ril 30, 1982, concerning activities not addressed in Secretary's
cision of April 21, 1983.

02 MAY 1984

pellants:

Barker, John
Blue Mountain Resources Council
Boise Cascade Corporation
Eastern Oregon Outfitters and Guides Association
Hitchcock, Maurice G.
Idaho Cattlemen's Association
Idaho Environmental Council
Idaho Woolgrowers' Association
National Organization for River Sports
Northwest Pine Association
Northwest Power Boat Association
Oregon Wilderness Coalition
Rising Mountain Enterprises
Thomas, Derral and Robert
Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce
Wallowa Lake Forest Industries, Inc.
Wallowa Resource Council
Western Whitewater Association
Wilderness Public Rights Fund

decision on the appeals with respect to activities other than boating on e Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is hereby announced.

ckground

blic Law 94-199, approved December 31, 1975, created the Hells Canyon tional Recreation Area (HCNRA) containing the Hells Canyon Wilderness, e Rapid and Snake Wild and Scenic Rivers, three wilderness study areas, d an additional portion of the Snake River as a Wild and Scenic Study ver. The act directed that a Comprehensive Management Plan for the area developed within 5 years of the date of enactment.

Environmental Impact Statement and Comprehensive Management Plan for e HCNRA were issued by the Forest Service in draft form on November 15, 79. The Environmental Impact Statement analyzed the effects of seven ternatives for managing the HCNRA. On May 28, 1981 Forest Service Chief terson selected Alternative C as the basis for the management plan which said, "offers a reasonable balance between environmental and creational opportunities while contributing to a stable local economy." e Final Environmental Impact Statement was issued on June 6, 1981.

e decision to adopt Alternative C as the Management Plan was appealed by individuals or organizations. In response to these expressed concerns d to consider possible improvements to the plan, the Chief reconsidered s decision and the appeals were held in abeyance. After reconsideration, the Chief issued a new decision on April 30, 1982, to adopt Alternative C with certain specific changes as the management plan for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. Nineteen of the original appellants requested administrative review by the Secretary of Agriculture of the reconsidered decision. We consolidated these 19 appeals in one review pursuant to 36 CFR 211.19 and conducted the review of the reconsidered decision. The administrative review record consisted of the Chief's responsive statement and the Statement of reasons of each of the appellants.

Five of the appeals dealt with boating limitations for the Snake River. A decision on the boating aopeals was expedited because of the approach of the summer boating season and the need for the commercial and private boat operators on the Snake River to know what policies the Forest Service would apply relatino to boating use. The decision on boating was rendered on April 21, 1983.

Requests for Oral Presentation

Pursuant to 36 CFR 211.19, various appellants have requested an opportunity to present their views orally. The record provides ample material for a decision on the merits, and appellants' appeal papers present a thorough statement of their cases. The request for oral presentation is denied.

Decision of Secretary

Based upon our review of the record, we sustain the decision of the Chief in the selection of Alternative C as modified by his decision of April 30, 1982 as the basis for the management plan for HCNRA subject to the following modifications:

* Timber Management

Within the Dispersed Recreation/Timber Management Areas, as described on Page 23 of the Comprehensive Management Plan, shelterwood cutting shall be added as a permitted silvicultural treatment. The sentence directing the use of "uneven-aged management systems" is deleted in its entirety.

Private Land Use Regulations

1. The flood plain definition contained in 292.20(b) (8) on page 34 of the Comprehensive Management Plan is changed to read as follows:

"(8) Flood_ Plain. An area of land on either side of a river channel which is subject to overflow flooding which could result in a loss of life or major prooerty damage.".

2. Standards, 292.22(d) is deleted and the following statment substituted. "The number of structures placed or used for residential occupancy on farm or forest lands shall he no more than that needed to conduct the farm or forest use."

3. Standards, 292.22(e) is revised by substituting a comma in place of the period and adding the following:

"except in those cases when the state or county develop criteria acceptable to the Forest Supervisor for determining when a parcel of less than 160 acres remains an economic farm or forest unit."

4. Standards, 292.22(h) is revised by adding the words: "new or replacement" before the word structures.

5. Standards, 292.22(r) is revised by adding the following sentence: "Prudent lawn and landscaping surrounding a farm or forest residence is appropriate."

6. Standard, 292.22(v) is deleted and the following sentence substituted:

"Timber harvesting will be in accordance with the applicable Stat Forest Practices Act." Plan Revision

* The last two sentences on Page 2 of the Comprehensive Management Plan are deleted and the following sentences substituted. "The plan shall be revised or amended whenever (1) the Forest Supervisor determines that conditions or demands of the public in the area covered by the plan have changed significantly or (2) when any Forest Plan or Forest Plans adopted for the Wallow-Whitman, Nezperce or Payette National Forests sets a timber harvest level or any other output level which alone or in combination with the Forest Plan for one or more of those Forests might have a significantly adverse effect on the economy of Wallowa County or Baker County in Oregon or Adams County, Idaho County, or Nez Perce County in Idaho. If revision or amendment occurs because of the second of the above-described conditions, every reasonable effort will be made to eliminate or mitigate the significantly adverse effect on the economy of the affected county or counties by revising or amending the Comprehensive Management Plan."

Forest Service has adequately dealt with the remainder of the llants' contentions in the various documents prepared since the FEIS Comprehensive Managefent Plan were issued in 1981, including the ual step of reconsidering its initial decision. There has been ghtful consideration of appellants' concerns by Forest Service cials.

rdingly, the decision of the Chief is sustained except as modified in and in my decision of April 21, 1983. This constitutes the final sion of the Secretary on these issues.

pril_ 198_ _ _ _ _ _

E. CROWELL, Jr. DATE

stant Secretary for

l F

10A-10.

EXHIBIT 3

COMMITTEES:
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

of the United States
e of Representatives
hington, D.C. 20515

arch 30, 1982

Mr. Max Peterson
Chief, U. S. Forest Service
Post Office Box 2147
Washington, D. C. 20013

Dear Max:

I have seen your proposed record of decision concerning the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Hells Canyon National Recreation and Comprehensive Management Plan. I remain opposed to Alternative C as the management plan for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. The NRA has become a defacto wilderness area...the management plan does not provide for enough harvestable timber, and it makes it extremely difficult for people in the area who choose the livestock business as their source of livelihood.

When the Act originally passed, Congress established the amount of wilderness that it wanted in the NRA and did not intend to set a precedent for other wilderness designations. I understand that the proposal for wilderness in the NRA is a preliminary administrative recommendation which will be further reviewed at the Secretary and Presidential Office levels as a legislative proposal for Congress. I want to go on record as being opposed to any such wilderness designations in the Hells Canyon NRA.

Another important factor that should have been addressed in your revised decision was the lack of timber management provided in Alternative C. Without management and harvest of commercial forest lands in the NRA, there will be a reduction of harvest levels over the entire Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. To maintain a relatively stable flow of timber to plants in northeast Oregon, I would like the Forest Service to agree to the following points:

1. Re-evaluate the NRA Comprehensive Plan allocations in the new upcoming Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan. This would include the evaluation of a more intensive timber management strategy for NRA commercial forest acres. These allocations must be tested as to their effect on the total Wallowa-Whitman harvest levels.

2. At a minimum, maintain the annual programmed timber harvest level at the projected RPA target of 220 MMBF for the Wallowa-Whitman forest.

Mr. Max Peterson
March 30, 1982
Page 2

Timber management has certainly been the primary concern of my constituency; however, I do not think we should overlook grazing privileges. Grazing was established as a valid use of the NRA, and I believe the continuation of livestock grazing in the NRA should be allowed. The Hells Canyon NRA Act itself states that "In development of the management plan, the Secretary shall give full consideration to continuation of these ongoing activities in their respective areas;" and, furthermore, that "ranching, grazing, farming, timber harvesting, and the occupation of home and the lands associated therewith, as they exist on the date of enactment of this Act, are recognized as traditional and valid uses of the recreation area." As discussed above, I certainly believe the ranchers should be able to continue to use the lands for grazing as they did upon enactment of the Act. Also, the 153,000 acres of NRA commercial forestland have traditionally been used for determining the allowable harvest from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. As a result of this proposed management plan, approximately 60% of the NRA's commercial forestland will no longer be used to grow trees for regulated timber harvest. This appears to be in direct violation with the HCNRA Act.

Powerboating was not the basis for an argument on the Oregon side. However, in my discussions with my colleagues from Idaho, I know that their constituencies feel that sanctions on the use of powerboats on the Snake River are premature and unnecessary. With regard to the powerboating issue, I will support the position of my colleagues from Idaho.

In conclusion, I would like to state that I do not feel the Forest Service has arrived at a more balanced alternative considering the basic changes which were made in Alternative C. I certainly would like to hear from you concerning this important matter.

Best regards,

Denny

Denny Smith
Member of Congress

DS/ps

EXHIBIT 4

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Washington Office
12th & Independence SW
P.O. Box 2417
Washington, DC 20013

Reply to 2370

Date APR 19 1982

Honorable Denny Smith
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

Thank you for the March 30 letter expressing your position on the proposed management plan for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. I appreciate knowing your views and the chance to respond to them.

In regard to your concerns about wilderness, I call your attention to Section 8(d) of P.L. 94-199 where the Secretary is specifically directed to review three identified areas for their wilderness potential. Review of these areas as well as those designated for further planning under Roadless Areas Review and Evaluation (RARE II), was completed during the planning process. Of the 319,177 acres reviewed and evaluated, 25,158 acres are being recommended for wilderness classification. As you have pointed out, however, the wilderness recommendation is preliminary and will receive further review.

The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976 amending the Resources Planning Act (RPA) of 1974 contains procedural direction for development of National Forest Plans. Included is the requirement to identify suitable lands for regulated timber harvest as the basis for determining allowable sale quantities rather than acres of commercial forest lands. While the acres of commercial forest land (CFL) will be identified in the planning process, it is unlikely the entire CFL base will be used in setting allowable sale quantities. Lands identified as not being suitable for regulated timber production will be reviewed at least every 10 years and shall be returned to regulated timber production whenever the Secretary determines that they have become suitable. The NRA Plan will be incorporated as a part of the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan and will conform to the NFMA requirements.

I agree that timber allocations, including those for more intensive timber management strategies for suitable NRA forested acres, will be reevaluated during the development of the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Plan. It would be inappropriate for me, however, if not a violation of law, to commit the Forest in advance of suitability determinations to any specific timber harvest level. The Plan does not call for any domestic livestock use reductions but does recognize the need for improving range conditions.

I believe the other traditional and valid uses of the recreation area as they existed on the date of enactment of this Act are also adequately provided for. Powerboating use, for example, has been allowed to increase many times over 1975 use levels to a point where some regulation is now necessary to provide for safety and capacity constraints.

Please be assured careful consideration is being given your views in this matter. Your interest in the management of this area is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

R. MAX PETERSON
Chief

STATEMENT OF ROBERT PEACOCK, PEACOCK LUMBER CO.

Mr. **Peacock**. Good morning, Senators. I am Bob Peacock from Peacock Lumber Company.

I am here today representing Peacock Lumber Company, which is a small sawmill and planning mill facility located near La Grande.

I have two brothers and I, are owners-operators of a business which was established by our parents in the late '50's.

We manufacture various sizes and grades of special order lumber for export and domestic markets.

The raw material for our products is of course timber from the forests of Northeastern Oregon.

Our family has recently completed the construction of an entirely new sawmill to replace an outmoded one. This project involved the infusion of 1.2 million new dollars into our company and the assistance of dozens of friends and neighbors.

This mill provides the potential for 35 new jobs in our community. Since we announced openings in early April we have had over 500 applicants for these few jobs.

We have undertaken this project with the certain knowledge that our area can provide quality timber to ourselves and neighboring mills forever if our forests are well managed.

It is our firm conviction that this region already has more than enough wilderness acreage dedicated to the vocal minority and that the balance of or public land must be committed to conscientious multiple use. Our company has worked hard and invested heavily to put ten to twelve million board feet of logs annually to their highest and best use.

In the process, we hope to make a living for ourselves and our employees.

Please don't make our jobs more difficult by creating artificial shortages of a precious natural resource.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you very much.

We will now call upon Panel 16, Mr. Loren Hughes, Mr. Nathan Borson, Ms. Shelley Cimon, Mr. Truman Carter.

STATEMENT OF LOREN W. HUGHES, OREGON DIVISION, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Mr. **Hughes**. I am Loren Hughes. I live here in La Grande. I represent the Union County Chapter of Izaak Walton League and I am a Regional Director for the Izaak Walton League, Oregon Division.

We endorse the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Conservation Act, S. 1803. A resolution is attached to our testimony.

The league has sponsored a "show me" trip to the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area with over 35 Forest Service people and industry people just two days before the Hat Point dedication of the NRA to look at the Thomason and Buckhorn area selective logging allocation being implemented under this new legislation.

Conservationists found out even before the NRA was even dedicated that none of these people really intended to work with the selective logging allocation definition that was in this Act.

The public developed an excellent economical NRA Management Plan.

The Agriculture Department literally gutted this publicly endorsed Management Plan like they have all such Acts and Indian treaties over many, many years, something we are all kind of used to.

The league has a long history of involvement in the making of laws and Acts such as the Forest Management Act of 1976 from the Monongahela lawsuit.

Now that Act has even been computed to be really about 99 percent worthless.

Wilderness is really the only designation that will protect this NRA's most valuable resource for all Americans in the future.

[The resolution follows:]

RESOLUTION

HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS, proposed dams on the Snake River between Asotin, Washington and the Oregon-Washington border would negatively impact anadromous fish runs, fishing, and river recreation use, and

WHEREAS, the United States Forest Service Comprehensive Management Plan will have significant negative impacts on fish, wildlife and recreation in the following ways:

1) excessive road development
2) excessive road standards
3) inadequate regulation of off-road vehicle use
4) overemphasis on timber harvest
5) methods of timber harvest inconsistent with NRA purposes (shelterwood and clearcut)
6) elk and deer habitat loss from excessive roads and timber harvest
7) anadromous fish habitat loss from excessive roads and timber harvest
8) potential reduction of bighorn sheep habitat from excessive roading
9) constant reduction of wilderness and wildland recreation resources from roads and timber harvest,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Oregon Division, Izaak Walton League of America, at its State Division Director's Meeting, assembled at Oregon City, Oregon on January 19, 1985, urges and supports Congressional legislation that

1) Designates approximately 34 miles of the lower Snake River, adjoining the already existing 67 miles of National Scenic River, as an addition to the National Wild and Scenic River System.

2) Designates all Qualifying lands in and adjacent to the HCNRA as an addition to the Hells Canyon Wilderness, and

3) Prescribes a specific limitation on the manner of harvest and amount of timber that may be removed from the HCNRA annually; only salvage or campground development, with a limit of one million board feet per year.

Union County Chapter 1985
Washington County Chapter, amended 1985

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF NATHAN BORSON

Mr. BORSON. Thank you, Senators, for the opportunity to testify.

My name is Nathan Borson. I live on a ranch and tree farm between here and Hells Canyon.

One of the main reasons I live in Northeast Oregon is for its wild rivers, canyons and mountains.

A highlight is Hells Canyon National Recreational Area, which was recognized to have national significance for its scenic, wilderness, recreational, wildlife, cultural and historic values.

Ten years ago Congress admonished the Forest Service to manage the area to protect and enhance those values.

It was assumed that they would do so, but in the ten years since then they have systematically degraded by loggging, roadbuilding for timber harvest, gravel pits, neglect of scenic and recreational roads, trails and facilities, and more of the same is planned.

Two years ago some wilderness was added to the NRA but the question of developing wilderness lands remains.

I feel very strongly that areas which are wild should remain that way. Especially those in the National Recreation Area. Some selection logging, as allowed in the bill, is not inconsistent with this purpose, but the Forest Service's emphasis on it is not appropriate. Senator Packwood's bill goes a long way towards answering that question and stopping some Forest Service mismanagement by designating existing roadless lands as wilderness, adding 33 miles of the Snake River to the wild and scenic river system and placing a cap on the amount of timber harvested.

I recognized there is a cost to this choice. The timber supply will be reduced and there will be some impact to the local economy.

My understanding is that the impact is very small, however, and well worth the returns in tourism, fish, elk and scenic values, those for which the scenic bill was established.

Personally, I feel this is a very modest bill. My own vision for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area includes reintroduction of extinct native species, wolf, pronghorn and Grizzly, closure of some existing roads to join wilderness areas, and the dismantling of Hells Canyon Dam.

Thank you for considering my views.

STATEMENT OF SHELLEY CIMON

Ms. CIMON. My name is Shelley Cimon, a resident of La Grande, Oregon.

I am a draftsperson and I have a small weaving company.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my views on such a critical issue as Senate Bill 1803.

It is time for us to make rational decisions concerning the future of this planet and the survival of all species of life on planet Earth.

Hells Canyon provides some of the highest quality and most diverse game and non-game habitat in Oregon and perhaps in America. There is no better way to ensure the perpetuation of such a resource and to guarantee its freedom from destruction and manipulation.

Some of the rare and endangered species which inhabit Hells Canyon are the peregine falcon, pine marten, fisher, lynx, feroginous hawk, bald eagle and the red banded trout. Many of these unique species require solitude for survival.

In regards to elk and deer, this proposal guaranties a perpetuation of existing protective cover, calving grounds, thermal cover and migration routes.

The entire Hells Canyon NRA provides habitat for anadromous fish. Chinook salmon and steelhead migrate and spawn in nearly all sizable tributaries, especially the Imnaha River drainages. The 100 miles of excellent stream habitat produce anadromous fish native trout.

The degradation of these areas needs to stop.

The potential exists for 200 percent to a thousand percent increase in the anadromous fish production if the quality of habitat is maintained.

All Hells Canyon fish become more important as increased efforts are made to revitalize the upper Columbia fisheries.

It is imperative that we make the right decision right now.

Senator Packwood, I greatly admire your efforts to promote the preservation of such a vital land.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF TRUMAN C. CARTER, POWDER RIVER SPORTSMEN

Mr. CARTER. Senators Packwood and Hatfield, my name is Truman Carter. I represent the Powder River Sportsmen of Baker, Oregon. And we support the Packwood wilderness bill.

I'm going to open my testimony with this statement: Technology not environmentalists is the chief cause losses in lumbering jobs.

To support this statement Oregon lumber manufacturers decreased their employment by about 1,400 workers in 1985, according to the Western Wood Products Association. Total employment in the wood products industry, including logging, plywood mills and related jobs, is almost 3,000 less than in 1984. Sawmills produce 7.2 million board feet of lumber, unchanged from 1984. It was a continuation of the emphasis on high volumes of production from fewer employees through automation and other strategies.

A millwright from Idaho told me of how the Horseshoe Bend mill in Idaho installed an automatic green chain to replace twelve people. By doing away with the crow's nest, using electric eyes, they eliminated three more. By installing a dry deck, they eliminate a pond and three more employees.

For several years the Forest Service has followed a policy of departure from the sustained yield and forest management.

At the same time Japan is purchasing 34 percent of their forest products from the United States. And several million board feet of that goes into the production of chop sticks.

The timber industry does not seem to be concerned with the future of their timber supply in the Northwest.

When the supply of timber in this area is exhasuted, they could move to the Southeastern United States and grow timber in one-third of the time it requires in the Pacific Northwest.

Recently I hiked eleven miles down the Lake Fork drainage of Hells Canyon. I saw very little sign of diseased trees. I was very much impressed with the beauty and diversity of the area.

By the way, I am 72 years old, and elderly people do get out in these wilderness areas.

I have been informed by the Forest Service that the spruce bark beetle has infested other areas of Lake Fork area, but I do not believe that logging the area is the solution.

The Lake Fork drainage is used by elk as a corridor for their winter and summer migrations. Its diversity of grassy slopes, meadows and timber provide thermal and hiding cover, provides ideal habitat for elk and deer.

The United States Forest Service has 300 road engineers in the State of Oregon. The State Highway Department has only 100 engineers. Keeping these 300 road engineers busy and justifying their budget has led to much over-roading by the United States Forest Service.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

The next panel, Number 17, Mr. Gene Ralston, Sandy Fridley, Mr. Tom Mensel.

STATEMENT OF GENE RALSTON

Mr. RALSTON. Thank you, Senator Hatfield, Senator Packwood.

My name is Gene Ralston from Meridian, Idaho. I was born and raised on a farm on the Snake River near Ontario.

Working on the farm and depending on the river for not only irrigation waters but also for irrigation and spiritual rejuvenation is probably where I developed my keen interest in ecology.

I began studying ecology and biological sciences in the early 1960's at a time when most folks could not even spell the word, let alone know what it meant.

I am now President of the Western White Water Association and own two businesses in the Boise area, an environmental consulting firm and a river jet boat manufacturing company.

The Western White Water Association was incorporated in 1978 to promote and preserve white water power boating. We now have more than 300 members in the western United States.

We believe that certain areas need some form of preservation.

However, you must be careful not to destroy the very attributes you are trying to preserve.

We have heard a lot here today about mismanagement on the Forest Service part. Perhaps the Forest Service has not done a good job managing the forests.

The proper action in this case then would be to bring pressure to bear on the forest managers. If they are not doing the job they are paid to do, let's get someone in there who will.

Passage of this bill will not guarantee the Forest Service will manage the wilderness any better than they are managing the forests now.

Let's not degrade the term wilderness, just to use it to slap the hands of the Forest Service and try to make them do the job they are supposed to do.

We in the Western White Water Association also believe the Snake River as it flows through the Hells Canyon NRA currently has all the protection and recognition it needs.

As a result of the protectionist designation as a wild river, white water rafting and power boating has been restricted to less than one half of the area's carrying capacity.

Fortunately these restrictions do not apply below Pittsburgh landing at this time.

We fear this bill would open the door for the Forest Service to impose more boating restrictions on the additional 33 miles of river, restrictions which are unnecessary and which will only increase the pressure on other white water rivers as the demand for quality white water river experience increases.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much, Mr. Ralston.

Is Sandy Fridley or Tom Mensel present?

If not, Panel 18, please, Mr. Craig Markham, Mr. Doug Peacock, Mr. Michael Rossotto, Mr. Donna Hammer, Bill and Margaret Oberteuffer, Mr. Rick Swart.

Please proceed.

STATEMENT OF W.H. OBERTEUFFER

Mr. OBERTEUFFER. Senator Hatfield and Senator Packwood, my name is Bill Oberteuffer.

Margaret, my wife, and I were both disappointed that she was not listed as an individual on the witness list. However, she feels that her concerns have been adequately addressed by previous testimony of James Monteith, Dave Light and Laurel Rubin.

I am a resident of Union County, Oregon. I have come here today to testify in favor of Senate Bill 1803.

You have heard a lot of testimony today about the effects of closing lumber mills in Northeastern Oregon.

Attached to my testimony is an editorial written by Glenn Coffin, editor emeritus of the Wallowa County Chieftain. I commend it to you. It has much historical perspective about logging in Wallowa County.

I farm a bit. If I farm rented land, and I don't farm it the way the owner wants it farmed, he tells me to change my management system, and I either change it or I farm somewhere else.

I have heard four different lumber companies today testify to the fact that anywhere from 70 to a hundred percent of their timber has to come from our land, our national forest land.

I think that's the example of the very poor job that our lumber company economists are doing.

They are in a very shaky position when they invest so much money on land that doesn't belong to them.

I voted for both of you gentlemen because I thought that you both had the superior intellect and the unselfish foresight necessary to do what is best for this nation, not just for Oregon. The Hells Canyon NRA is national property.

Oregon has very nearly the same amount of non-federal land as the State of Kentucky. Yet population density in Oregon in 1980 was 27 people per square mile as contrasted to 263 people per square mile in Kentucky.

Aren't we in Oregon lucky to have so much land right next door that doesn't totally belong to us to use so easily? Why do we need to get so excited by trying to rob the federal pastures and timberlands? Are we saying that we really can't make it on our own land?

Hells Canyon and the Imnaha Canyon equal or exceed the natural beauty and value to the nation of Rice Canyon, Zion Canyon or the Grand Canyon. They deserve no less protection from the short term greed of a segment of today's society.

I particularly hope that you, Senator Hatfield, will support this bill.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you. Next please.

STATEMENT OF CRAIG P. MARKHAM

Mr. **Markham**. Thank you, Senators. My name is Craig Markham.

I have spent my most special and renewing moments on the rivers and canyons of the Snake River basin. And I am here today to support Senator Packwood's bill to further that protection.

I am amazed and somewhat embarrassed at the number of times today the term land grab has come up in this room.

I would like to remind all of us of how we got that land, where it came from, who it came from and how we got it from them. And I might also remind this audience that if those people had behaved the same way we are behaving today, we would certainly not be seeing the kind of resource and be gaining the benefits from that resource that we are temporarily getting today.

We need to set aside some of this land so it will always be that way. It is terribly important for our spiritual and our material well being.

We are too temporary and we are doing things that are too permanent to the face of this earth and we need to consider carefully what it is we are doing.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Markham follows:]

13606 NW Milburn St.
Portland, OR 97229
16 Aug 1986

M

1986 AUG 20 PM 3:57

Senator Bob Packwood
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Packwood:

I support the Hells Canyon Bill which you have introduced to correct U.S. Forest Service abuses in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. THe USFS has apparently interpreted the current non-wilderness designation as a license to do whatever they feel like doing -- continuing excessive and harmful road construction, two-phase clearcutting (code worded "shelterwood logging") and generally excessive timber harvest.

It is vital that this legislation be passed with its provisions to:

1) designate an additional 300,000 acres of wilderness along the Oregon side of Hells Canyon,

2) Extend the Snake River's Wild and Scenic River designation to include the lower 33 free-flowing miles, and

3) Limit logging activities within the NRA and prohibit clear cutting under all guises.

Both governmental and industrial abuses of the NRA must be curbed, and this bill will help do just that.

I am also concerned about the restriction of the field hearing to LaGrande (Tues, 9 Aug 1986). While I agree fully that local interests on all sides of the issues should have ample and convenient opportunity to participate in the process, I am sure that you are aware that the status of Hells Canyon is much more than a local issue in this state. Scheduling a mid-week hearing only in LaGrande does not seem like a way to gather fully representive testimony. I encourage you to schedule a similar field hearing in Portland.

Please include this letter in the hearing record.

Yours truly,

Craig P. Markham

Craig P. Markham

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you. Next speaker.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL ROSSOTTO, NORTHWEST OFFICE, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

Mr. ROSSOTTO. Senators, my name is Michael Rossotto. I represent the Northwest office of Friends of the Earth located in Seattle, Washington.

Friends of the Earth is a national environmental advocacy organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of the wise use of the earth's resources. We have a national membership of 20,000 and approximately 2,000 members in the Pacific Nothwest who strongly support the wilderness proposal.

Friends of the Earth was a major proponent of the original Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Act.

We have been betrayed. The Forest Service Management Plan developed for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is in direct conflict with the intent of the 1975 Act and current Forest Service practices such a shelterwood logging actually violate that law.

To redress this violation of the spirit and letter of the 1975 Hells Canyon National Recreation Act, we fully support the proposed Hells Canyon Conservation Act of 1986, especially the designation of the lower 33 free flowing miles of the Snake as a National Wild and Scenic River and designation of the full 300,000 acres of new Hells Canyon Wilderness.

As Friends of the Earth's Northwest Rivers Project Coordinator and hydropower specialist for the Northwest Office, I have been closely following the Northwest Power Planning Council's Columbia River basin fish and wildlife enhancement projects and the Council's Northwest Rivers Study.

The Power Planning Council has invested huge amounts of time, effort and money in studying and implementing actions to help restore fish runs in the Columbia and Snake River drainages. The lower Snake and its tributaries represent some of the best potential salmon and steelhead spawning and rearing habitat remaining in the region.

Non-designation of the Snake and the proposed Hells Canyon Wilderness can only jeopardize the efforts and investments of the Power Planning Council, the region's power interests and the Northwest electric ratepayers in restoring the region's once great anadromous runs.

The Council's Pacific Northwest Rivers Study, which was designed to identify environmentally sensitive areas which should be protected from future hydroelectric development, have generated a great deal of information on the Snake River tributaries which would be protected by the proposed wilderness designation.

The Rivers Study included the participation of the Northwest States resource agencies, Indian tribes, and the U.S. Forest Service.

All the rivers and streams located in the proposed wilderness received extremely high scores for wildlife, fish and recreation:

Here are some examples:

Johnson Creek received highest possible scores for canoeing/kayaking, boating and warm weather fishing, and includes an important salmon/steelhead fishery.

The Imnaha received the highest possible score for overall recreation, resident fish and wildlife, including high abundance of elk and mule deer and known peregrin falcon nesting sites.

Cow Creek was assessed as having subtantial recreational resources, substantial resident fish resources, high abundance of elk and outstanding hunting and wildlife values.

Lightning Creek has elk and mule deer in high abundance, outstanding hunting and wildlife values, and a substantial resident fishery.

Cherry Creek has high abundance of elk and outstanding hunting and wildlife resources.

Horse Creek has high abundance of elk, outstanding hunting and wildlife, and a substantial trout fishery.

Lick Creek has high abundance of elk, outstanding hunting and wildlife, and a substantial trout fishery with high recreational use.

Clearly, the Hells Canyon area contains outstanding fish and wildlife resources and offers exceptional opportunities for hunting, fishing, and recreational boating, as well as hiking, sightseeing, and other recreational activities.

Current Forest Service management practices are not only inadequate but constitute a direct threat to these outstanding natural values which can serve as the basis for a healthy, stable, long-term recreation and tourism based local economy.

Proposals for the Sultan and Asotin dams constitute a further threat to the fishery and recreational potential of Hells Canyon.

Designation of the new Hells Canyon wilderness and designation of the remaining free-flowing portion of the Snake as a National Wild and Scenic River are required to preclude these unneeded dams and preserve the area's resource values.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you, sir.

STATEMENT OF DONNA HAMMER

Ms. **Hammer**. Senators Hatfield and Packwood, I am Donna Hammer from Halfway, Oregon.

Although I am relatively new to Halfway, I have had a chance to hear much of the local lore concerning this area, including that about Hells Canyon.

The oldtimers speak of steelhead coming into our valley before the dams. They talk of the old Indian sites along the banks of the Snake River, which have since been lost. Many of them, who have lived here all their lives, speak with almost reverence about Hells Canyon, Lake Fork, Sheep Mountain and the other unique and special places which constitute for us a backyard in that they are used and valued by local hikers, hunters, cattlemen, as well as by those who come from other parts of the nation.

There are also many of us, who, as newcomers, chose to settle in this area because of its special recreational and scenic attractions.

As I have studied the history of the management of Hells Canyon and adjoining areas, I have become concerned not only about what has been lost already but also about what fragile ecosystems are here now, but which are threatened even under current NRA status.

I feel that unless this area enjoys a Congressional solution, such as the present legislation, or is managed as a National Park Preserve, many of the scenes and experiences which we enjoy today will only be a part of the local history.

The economy of our entire State is changing from a less dependence on the timber industry with its dependence on the housing market and interest rates to increased use of our tourist and recreation potential. More road building threatens not only wildlife habitat, watershed and back country trails, but also the future of recreation here.

The passage of this proposal Wilderness Bill will assist the continued growth and development of recreation and tourism in this area and demonstrate a real commitment to the idea of multiple use of public lands.

Thank you.

Rick Swart. I'm Rick Swart. I am a resident of Joseph. I am the editor of the Wallowa County Chieftain.

Senator Hatfield and Packwood, I see the S. 1803 as an over-reaction to a perceived problem. I have heard discussions on both sides of the issue today and I see where we all have a lot of common thoughts on the subject. We are all in favor of improving the fish habitat, the game habitat and none of us is in favor of destroying the timber resource that's there.

I want to congratulate you on the enactment of the original bill. I think that was well thought out. I think it's a real asset to Oregon and the nation.

I also want to congratulate you for your winning the $100,000 for the improvements to Dug Bar and Hat Point roads.

I hope that we can see more of these kinds of improvements in the works in the future.

One of the problems I have with the wilderness situation is we have been promised, or I should say, part of the bill, was that developed recreation and other types of recreation would make up for the loss of jobs in the timber industry.

This hasn't happened, as I am sure it has been pointed out.

I think that there has been a sore lack of expenditures in the Hells Canyon area on the part of the federal government, that if those expenditures were forthcoming or if there was any reason to believe that these improvements were to be made, that I could feasibly be a supporter of the wilderness bill.

But the track record of improvements, the promises that were never delivered, makes me a little suspicious of adding any more.

Also I think that sustained yield is what we ought to be shooting for. To let timber grow and not be harvested, is a waste.

We are rational people and I think there ought to be a rational solution somewhere in between. I don't see anything wrong with harvesting at a sustained yield level.

Also I tend to view more laws as fewer rights to the individual.

Thank you for letting me speak.

Senator **Hatfield.** Thank you very much.

Now let me check again, from Panel 18, Mr. Doug Peacock, Margaret Oberteuffer?

As of now, we have heard 100 witnesses of the 198 scheduled to testify.

What is your name?

Mr. **Peacock**. Doug Peacock, Senator. We were in our seats. I was waiting my turn.

Senator **Hatfield**. I guess we will have one more from Panel 18.

STATEMENT OF DOUGLAS PEACOCK

Mr. **Peacock**. Thank you. Senators, thank you, Senators Hatfield and Packwood, for allowing me to speak today.

My name is Doug Peacock. I live in the forest, in a home that a few friends and I built with our hands from lodgepole pine.

I use Douglas fir, pine and larch to heat my house. These trees provide shelter from summer sun, winter wind and fresh drinking water.

I live in the forest. My neighbors live in the forest. They all built their homes from trees. Some work for the U.S. Forest Service. Others are loggers or mill workers or crafts persons.

We live in the forest.

We that live in the forest know that the trees and the land are our means to survival. The forest will always provide in times of need.

We speak with one voice in our devotion to preserving our land. We refuse to be told by paper money junkies how to survive.

We do real well by ourselves. Our lands will always provide us with the answers that we seek.

I support Senate Bill 1803 and I ask for further strengthening of the bill, dismantling Hells Canyon Dam, re-introducing the wolf and Grissly Bear.

Thank you.

Senator **Hatfield**. Thank you, Mr. Peacock.

We will now stand in recess until 1:30.

Senator Packwood will reconvene the hearing at that time. I will be at other meetings.

I want to thank the people of this part of Oregon for their response to this hearing and I will look forward to reading the full text of the hearing, or at least a summary.

[Noon recess taken.]

AFTERNOON SESSION

Senator **Packwood** [presiding]. The hearing will come back to order, please, and we will follow where we left off this morning. Following the same admonition that Mr. Hatfield mentioned, each speaker will be held to three minutes.

We will start with Panel No. 19, Mr. Steve Whittemore, Donald McPhail, Don Hockhart, John Binford.

If the witnesses would, please remember, when you start to testify, to simply give your name so the reporter will have it.

STATEMENT OF STEVE WHITTEMORE, DIRECTOR, NORTHEAST OREGON VACATIONLAND, INC.

Mr. **Whittemore**. Good afternoon, Senator.

I am Steve Whittemore. I am here representing Northeast Oregon Vacationland, and I am also a businessman who depends on the retail consumer market in Baker, Union and Wallowa Counties.

The proposal to add yet more resources to wilderness designation in Northeastern Oregon may appear to those individuals in other portions of the country to be simple and worthwhile. Support for anything is easily given if you are unaffected.

The burden of subsidy for this allocation is borne by those people who will lose their job and income as a result of this proposal.

It cannot be properly represented that additional wilderness is an enhancement to tourism as a possible tradeoff resulting from additional allocations.

Wilderness utilization is by a very few, as the nature of the recreation focuses on a very small constituency.

I submit that the lands designated to be used for the well-being of great numbers of people, not just for special interest groups supporting wilderness.

I ask that you not lock us out of our resource base so that it can be managed for all uses.

Thank you, Senator.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF DONALD A. McPHAIL, NORTHEAST OREGON VACATIONLANDS

Mr. McPHAIL. Good afternoon. I am Don McPhail. I am an independent tourism consultant and I am representing here—or here at the invitation of Northeast Oregon Vacationlands.

First of all, any claims which imply that wilderness areas, scenic areas or recreation areas will have significant, positive economic impact on this region are not accurate.

Recreation and tourism are two different things. To assert that recreation areas can create economic opportunities as tourism is very misleading.

Northeast Oregon has a limited number of economic alternatives right now. It has timber, agriculture and tourism, with a small degree of manufacturing. But economic development seems to be in a bind with this wilderness bill.

Others will discuss the impact on timber, but as for tourism, there are several natural and historic attractions here. Wallowa Lake, Eagle Cap, Blue Mountains, gold mines, ghost towns, historic Baker town and Hells Canyon.

But tourists cannot spend money to see them, even if they want to. They can see them but they can't spend money on them.

As legislators and private citizens, I should think that you could come up with a better answer than a wilderness bill.

Are there other ways to protect the beauty of the region? Is it necessary to declare certain portions as scenic or recreational or wilderness?

The wilderness bill method is certainly simpler for legislatures. A single, sweeping decision makes it clear, and you can return to Washington or Salem.

But what happens to the people who live here? Do loggers and drivers and their families have sections to harvest? Or do they move away? Do landholders develop their land for visitors, for lodging, dining, recreation, cultural displays? Do they create jobs and pay salaries and taxes the way tourism does? Or do they move away?

And what of visitors to the region? Do they continue to sleep more than a thousand strong in sleeping bags along the banks of the Snake River, leaving garbage and sewage in publicly maintained receptacles? Or are they elitests or scientists, coming to examine pristine beauty in a sterile, protected environment?

There ought to be a better way, where controlled, healthy development can create a lodge or restaurant, a boat, raft or canoe rental shop, food or other goods for purchase. Guides and professional outfitters for hire.

Not a schlock, federally or State-operated mom and pop picnic area, but a legitimate, high quality development, where visitors can enjoy the region and pay for the experience, where jobs are created and State and federal taxes are generated, where visitors to Oregon return home and tell their friends what a great experience they had, what a great place they stayed in, what friendly people they met in Hells Canyon.

I should think that you could set high protective standards to preserve the beauty of the region, without turning it into a wilderness area. You could enforce the standards with the budget now used to empty sewage and garbage receptacles below Hells Canyon Dam.

But you do not have to shut off development and livelihoods in the area. And you don't have to declare it off-limits to the people who live there.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF MIKE LOCKHART, PRESIDENT, ANTHONY LAKES, CORP.

Mr. LOCKHART. My name is Mike Lockhart, Senator.

I am currently President of Anthony Lakes Corporation and also general manager and vice-president of Wallowa Lake Tramway.

I am here to voice a concern over the possible negative impacts that would develop as a result of the depletion of jobs within the northeast region due to Senate Bill 1803.

It is our concern that any further erosion of the local economic base will definitely slow the expansion and development of tourist facilities in this region.

Although the transient visitor does add greatly to the revenue base of our facilities, the primary market is derived from customers residing in Baker, Union and Wallowa Counties.

Further deterioration of that customer base within this area will have a negative impact on growth and development of tourism within the region.

In order for our facilities, and facilities like ours, to thrive, they must have that local customer base in order which to build a strong platform for growth in the future.

In addition to the above comments, I would also like to address the premise that has been expounded by proponents of the wilderness experience that a designation of this sort will increase the tourist income to the area in equal amounts to those jobs lost to the wood products industry.

Having operated facilities adjacent to the newly designated John Day Wilderness Area has given me insight into what actually does transpire in these designated areas.

And I can honestly say from personal experience that there has been no positive impact, both in terms of increased traffic through the area, and more specifically, in gross revenues to the developed summer facilities adjacent to the wilderness area.

Thank you for the opportunity to make these few brief comments in reference to the proposed legislation.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JOHN BINFORD

Mr. BINFORD. Senator Packwood, my name is John Binford. I live in Halfway.

My brother, Lin, and I are attempting to develop a destination resort on property we own in the Hells Canyon area located north of Homestead adjacent to the Hells Canyon reservoir, and also adjacent to the current wilderness area.

We have been working on that project for three years. We have spent about $30,000 of our own funds. And we still have not resolved the problems one is faced with in developing adequate roads, water and sewer facilities, as well as meeting the regulations imposed by Idaho Power, Federal, State and local governments.

We believe our project would provide unique recreational opportunities while creating jobs and adding to the economic stability of Oregon.

The State of Oregon has a variety of recreational opportunities, not only for Oregonians but for all Americans, as well as foreign visitors.

We believe that a balanced program promoting private as well as federal, State and local cooperation should be made in order to develop all the varieties of recreation.

We believe that wilderness should play a part in the overall plan for recreation.

While we are not opposed to wilderness, we think that it should be part of a broader recreational concept. That concept should be to develop our recreational resources in such a way that we meet the needs of the majority of the people.

We have already set aside vast areas of wilderness.

Is that wilderness not sufficient to meet the needs of those who have the time, resources, good health to enjoy such areas? Does wilderness create jobs, attract capital that would add to the economic stability of Oregon?

We believe that recreation should not discriminate against those who do not have the means or time to enjoy wilderness.

We therefore believe that we have set aside enough wilderness and that we should encourage managed recreation, whether it be private or public.

Priority should be given to identifying areas where other forms of recreation could be developed and encourage development of those areas.

From our own experience we have discovered that the development of managed recreation, whether public or private, requires a long planning process and should receive more support from government.

In the future it will be only to the extent that we meet all forms of recreational facilities that we will assure ourselves of wilderness, for it is only as we meet those needs that we will reduce the pressures on wilderness.

What is needed is not more wilderness but a balanced recreational development program that provides recreation for the majority.

Thank you.

Senator Packwood. Thank you, fellows. Thank you very much.

Now we will be on Panel 20, which is John Barker, Stephen Donnell, Robert Jackson, Roberta Bates.

And we will start down at this end. Go right ahead.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT H. JACKSON

Mr. Jackson. My name is Robert Jackson.

I have a degree in forestry from Iowa State with all of my experience in the western pine region.

I have worked in the woods since coming to Wallowa County in 1951 for lumber companies until 1970. Since 1970 I have been involved in tree farming and small logging. In 1978 Leo Goebel and I received a Jaycee tree farm award. In 1984 we were named Oregon's Tree Farmers of the Year.

I believe that our forest practices on our land are more to the intent of Congress in the management of the NRA than the actual practices on that area.

With wisdom, Congress used the words "selective cutting" and "compatible" concerning uses of the forests.

The Forest Service missed its first opportunity for compatibility by not renegotiating the timber sales contracts in effect at the establishment of the NRA. Thus there have been depletion by clear cutting and the Forest Service's aberration of shelterwoods.

The re-definition of terms resulted in permitting cutting other than selective cutting.

The worst came in 1984 when Undersecretary of Agriculture John Crowell issued a decision permitting shelterwoods. Present planning calls for two acre shelterwoods and continuance of depletion cutting.

Please insist on John Crowell's decision being rescinded. Please provide for a program of reclamation of our national forests, including the NRA.

On the Thursdays of January, 1986, the Wallowa County Chieftain printed guest editorials by myself concerning forest problems and uneven management in our forests. Please accept these public writings as my written testimony, suggesting that this is applicable to the NRA.

Senator Packwood. Thank you, Mr. Jackson.

STATEMENT OF JOHN A.K. BARKER

Mr. BARKER. I'm John A.K. Barker. I reside at 2124 Grelle Avenue in Lewiston, Idaho, and I want to thank you for the opportunity to see you again in another hearing like this.

I am the current President of the Hells Canyon Preservation Council. I am a licensed outfitter in both Oregon and Washington and a member of the Idaho Guides and Outfitters Association.

I am going to defer from my written statement and cover some things that I think are very important.

In 1985 the Idaho Guides and Outfitters Association in its annual meeting in December voted unanimously to endorse Senate Bill 1803.

On the section of the Snake River proposed for classification in this bill, my company, Barker River Trips, is the largest float operator on that section, and I have included with my testmony a written statement from the Beamers, Wally and Myrna Beamer, who are the largest power boat operators on the entire portion of the Snake, both supporting the bill and that portion of the bill which gives classification to the lower river.

The proposal was studied, as I am sure you know, and recommended for inclusion in 1979. I am still packing around my copy. I was on the study team at the time.

I would like to talk a little bit about that section of the river.

Last Sunday we had a river trip coming off. My sons were going on it. I decided to drive. I left Asotin at approximately 3:00 p.m. and drove very slowly to the mouth of the Grande Ronde and counted everyone that I possibly could on that stretch on that Sunday, and that's the 25 mile stretch from the mouth of the Grande Ronde down to the town of Asotin. There were 748 people enjoying the Snake River on both sides.

I submit to you that that's exactly what a recreational river is, and it is time that we afforded that river suitable protection.

The Army Corps of Engineers and others still have plans to build Asotin Dam or a dam like it. They feel that it is necessary in order to prevent siltation in the Ports in Lewiston and Clarkston and downstreams.

The only way that we can eliminate a threat of Asotin Dam or a deregulatory dam or some kind of dam which could conceivably backward water into Oregon is to classify that section of the Snake River under the Wild and Scenic Act and be done once and for all I hope with the Army Corps of Engineers.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Barker follows:]

Testimony of John A.K. Barker
Before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
August 19, 1986

I am John Barker of 2124 Grelle Avenue, Lewiston, Idaho. I have been active in the Hells Canyon Preservation Council since its formation in 1968, and I am currently president of H.C.P.C. I have testified before congressional committees several times since 1968, and I have met with Forest Service personnel on several occassions to discuss management of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. The role of H.C.P.C. in the development of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area is well known.

Section 7 of the Hells Canyon NRA Act gives direction for management of the area. Subsection 7 allows for timber harvest by selective cutting provided that it is compatible with other provisions in the Act. The other six subsections provide for protection of free-flowing rivers, recreation, scenic, wilderness, cultural, scientific, biological, fish, wildlife, archeological, and historic values. We were dismayed to see the emphasis placed on timber harvest in the Comprehensive Management Plan. Target harvest was established for nearly all commercial forest land. It is my opinion that the most conscious manager could not protect amenity values while meeting timber quotas.

And this has been the case. We know of logging activities where archeological sites have been disrupted. We know that logs have been skidded up, down, and across streams where salmon were spawning. We know that thinning has occurred in areas where big game cover is lacking. We know that large clear-cuts have been made. We know that campgrounds have been closed to allow logging. We know that riparian zones have been destroyed. We know that natural springs have been distrupted. We know that road construction has silted streams. And to my eye, I know that scenic values have been lost. All of this damage has been done to meet timber harvest production goals and to prevent, so called, waste of timber resources. Our reason for preserving the Hells Canyon area is to protect the natural beauty, historical, archeological, recreational and ecologic values; not provide timber for mills.

Obviously, the Forest Service is not inclined to manage commercial forest lands in a manner to protect amenity values. There is no management level between total multiple use and wilderness even when a National law prescribes such management. We believe there are two solutions to the problem: (1) Take management of the Hells Canyon NRA away from the Forest Service and give it to the Park Service or (2) classify as wilderness all lands which meet criteria of the Wilderness Act and curtail timber harvest on the remaining area. We favor the second alternative and therefore support passage of Senate Bill 1803 with the option that if that doesn't work, we will support the first alternative.

Testimony of Jon Barker
Before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
August 19, 1986

My name is Jon Barker and I live at 2124 Grelle, Lewiston, Idaho. I am a licensed river guide in Oregon and Idaho on the Grande Ronde, Salmon, and Snake Rivers. Over twelve years--half my life--have passed since I last testified regarding Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Legislation in Lewiston in 1973. At that time I testified because I was supportive of efforts to preserve the region in a pristine condition or a natural state that I had come to recognize and appreciate.

With the help of my father, John Barker, I had often traveled through the area impacted by proposed legislation by boat, and by foot when backpacking. These trips left a profound impression on me because of the area's rugged scenery and its seemingly endless terrain. Since that time I have worked as a commercial river guide, and I've made one-hundred trips by raft through the particular section being considered for inclusion in legislation.

During these trips I have transported over two-thousand people through this part of the Snake River. Many of these people had little prior appreciation for the river and its surroundings, that is until we passed the NRA boundary and became overwhelmed by the appearance of weekend cabins and the tremendous increase in river traffic. At this point on the river, virtually all of my customers over a six-year period expressed a negative reaction toward this kind of commercial development and overuse of the river's resources. These same people also commented how nice and peaceful it was to be upstream from any large-scale commercial development and civilization as such. This type of feedback from my customers left me with an understanding of their concerns and personal sensibilities about the river. In short, they would prefer to see the area less developed than it already is.

Their views coincide with mine to the extent that I feel this area should be exempt from any further commercial and private development. The basic reason is that such development would mar the landscape and leave the river corridor in a less natural state than the nearby corridors of both the Snake and Salmon Rivers.

The best days of my young life have been spent floating this area and hiking, hunting, and horsepacking nearly every drainage along the length of the Snake River. As a result, this area should not be developed and my outdoor recreation, as well as that of my friends and customers, disrupted by such activities. Therefore, I support passage of Senate Bill 1803.

Finally, as a member of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association, I also support its stance to back the passage of Senate Bill 1803. I am sorry that I am unable to appear at this hearing because I am working and enjoying another wilderness adventure in an area of Idaho protected by similar legislation.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ROBERTA BATES

Ms. **Bates**. I am Roberta Bates, 403 M Avenue, La Grande, Oregon.

I am in favor of having all of the area proposed in the Hells Canyon set-aside as national wilderness.

I am not opposed to the harvesting of timber from the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

I am, however, opposed to the crossing of streams with heavy vehicles, to the devastation of mountain soils by logging equipment, the destruction of young trees by careless cutting habits, and I am especially opposed to clear-cutting and other practices that have the same results.

Especially objectionable is the disruption of small streams and the damage done to the riparian zones.

All that does happen in the name of logging, jobs and economic stability.

Those methods of logging are old fashioned, ignorant and arrogant. It is time for us to use our God given intelligence to stop the decimation of our vital forest lands with such heedless ways of mining logs.

Trees are more than cylinders of wood to be mowed down and sawed into boards. Tress are miracles of nature which have taken from hundreds to thousands of years to grow. They are shelter and food to all kinds and sizes of wildlife. They catch and hold the moisture in the ground to be released at the best time. They are part of an overall ecology, important to human health and well-being. In addition to all that, they are beautiful to behold, and infinately recreating to our soles.

If wisely managed, our valuable forests could supply timber for jobs, lumber for construction and money for economic stability as well as maintaining the ecology and providing recreation for the increasing need of it in our rat race society.

But the past history of timber harvesters has not demonstrated any care for any other values except for board feet of lumber.

Until we learn to venerate this miracle of nature, until we learn to log with intelligence and respect regard for fragile soils, for our water sources and for the total ecology and for the length of time that it takes for a tree to grow, then I believe that we have to protect the forests in whatever way we can.

The 1975 agreement to manage the Snake River Canyon as a scenic and recreational region has been arrogantly ignored. Because of that, logging should be forfeited and the area saved under the protection of National Wilderness.

Thank you.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF STEPHEN W. DONNELL

Mr. **Donnell**. Senator Hatfield, my name is Steve Donnell.

Even though I am an officer and/or member of various organizations, I am testifying in behalf of myself as a concerned citizen who is interested in the future of Eastern Oregon.

Considering the Hells Canyon National Recreation Wilderness Bill, I asked myself why the bill was proposed in the first place.

The conclusion was, present management does and has not maintained or improved the area for its Congressionally approved purpose of being a controlled recreation area.

Therefore, to force a management change, wilderness designation is being proposed.

Basically, as I see the problem, the present management is treating the area as just another multi-use intensively managed area that is to be managed to increase the efficiency of commodity extraction.

The big attraction to commodity users is old growth timber.

It has been stated at meetings and in the press that more logging should take place and not hurt the area. Most interesting is the definition of "hurt" is never defined.

Within the lifetime of trees proposed to be cut society has accepted as fact that the Earth is flat, minerals depletion laws were incorrect, etc. I might suggest with the additional passage of time some of the facts presented here will also fall in the same realm as those listed above. Time has shown them to be incorrect and not true in light of additional knowledge.

However, it is an irrefutable fact that once a 400 year old tree is cut, it is gone forever and will take an equivalent amount of time to replace itself.

When the roads are built, they will be there for better or worse for long periods of time.

I will raise the concern that one real issue is being lost during the conduct of these hearings. That is, is the present management practices maintaining or increasing the area's ability to be a National Recreation Area?

Congress now has the time and the vehicle to clearly define what are the attributes for a recreational area, and therefore the land managers will have clear management guidelines, as they don't have at the present time, and they will be able to use those guidelines to help resolve some of the contorversy that's come about in these hearings.

My written testimony more fully suggests what can and should be done to resolve these problems.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Donnell follows:]

TESTIMONY

before

PUBLIC LANDS SUBCOMMITTEE
SEMATE ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Senator Mark O. Hatfield Chairman

by

STEPHEN W. DONNELL
Rt. 1, Box 1237
LaGrande, Oregon
97850

HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS HEARING

Ph. (503) 963-3686

August 19, 1986
Zabel Hall
Eastern Oregon
State College

SHOULD THE HELLS CANYON RECREATION AREA BE DESIGNATED AS A WILDERNESS AREA?

There is a large body of people on either side of this issue. Some are for wilderness, some against. Many others have little or no interest and are not concerned whether the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA) is designated wilderness or not.

Here in Eastern Oregon much of our economic and business activity is dependent on use of the public lands to support business and our industrial base. However the basic resources (timber, land and water) are managed by the Forest Service (FS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and other agencies who regulate or control water and land use activities. Therefore, an examination of the reason(s) why the HCNRA should be designated as a wilderness area is essential, prior to answering the wilderness question.

Historically the HCNRA was established so the area would be managed as a recreational and resource area open to general public for use and enjoyment. Logging was one of the permitted uses. The FS was given responsibility to manage the area so as to protect and enchance its recreational use. (HCNRA is designated as a "recreational area")

Since the start of this designation, the FS has basically managed the area with an emphasis on logging and its attendent activities. There has been some effort towards recreation management, but on the whole, commodity interests were given an emphasis with money and management activity.

Allowable cuts were set, based upon theoretical estimates of regeneration and growth rates. But they have not been adjusted in light of actual results. In addition local commodity interests use (logging & grazing) has resulted in timber and resource extraction at rates greater than that which can be supported and still maintain the area in a state equivalant to that which it was at the time of HCNRA establishment.

Wood processing and selling is done in a highly differentiated market environment. At the present time, Ponderossa pine is the most profitable and preferred species. Unfortunately it has one of the slowest growth rates and is difficult to reestablish in the present environment. (The area is now experiencing a 100 year drought condition which seriously effects any efforts to reestablish the pine trees.)

At the present time congress has given the FS an impossible job. On one hand, the FS is to manage the HCNRA for recreation, and at the same time congress says X number of million board feet is to be cut on a national level so as to meet a congressional mandate. To meet this cut and still not completely over cut other areas of the local forest, the HCNRA is being cut at its present and past rate, which rate precludes maintenance of the recreationa values which induced congress to designate it an NRA.

This means that the real issue is not one of WILDERNESS or NO WILDERNESS but one of management of the area. The Forest Service can only do what congress allows it to do. To resolve this impossible situation this committe has the opportunity to recommend changes in present law so as to mandate that areas such as the HCNRA are managed for their intended purpose. In this case "recreation and commodity extraction in quantities that will not destroy the area as it now exists".

If congress will not modify existing law so that the FS must modify its present management and adminstrative rules, to reflect a legislative mandate to maintain the area as a "national recreational area", then "a wilderness designation form of legislation" should be passed.

However, when the HCNRA is designated a wilderness area, the amount of pine available to be cut will be reduced. Yet at the same time the area will be maintained in a condition that the public will want to come to for recreational purposes. In addition wilderness designation reduces the ability of FS managers to manage for multi-use recreational activities. Road access would be stopped, sanitary facilities and water development projects would be curtailed and fences for livestock control would not be built.

To resolve the conflicts congress should:

*Repeal present legislation that mandates a specific volume of FS cut.

*Have each national forest establish a cut based upon sustained yield for that forest (by type and kind of species) as identified in the forest inventory.

*Have each forest establish a biannium budget for replanting and forest regeneration. The cost of such efforts to be paid from the forest receipts of the forest in question, instead of the present system of putting the money into the general fund and then appropriating it back to the FS. (This would allow each forest to manage for best production and actual sustained yield. Excess revenues over forest cost would be distributed as at present.)

*All specially designated area such as the HCNRA should have specific management plans that emphasize and insure that the area will be maintained and developed for its designated use.

*Pass legislation that requires sustained yield based upon species as well as quantity. At the present time no consideration is given to the fact that only volume is now required and species are as a class ignored.

*Pass legislation that all timber sales are to be done with the least cost and any capitol improvements are to have a depreciation schedule and attendent reserve fund established for them to take care of future maintenance and replacement costs.

With legislation as outlined above in place, much of the present problems now being experienced in our forest management would be reduced. The pressures that exist because of present law and rule would no longer be present.

In summary, if the HCNRA is to be maintained as a recreation area present management pratices must be changed. Wilderness designation is one way to do so.

Social and economic costs with a wilderness designation would be high in the local area but could on a national scale be positive in nature.

Existing laws have contributed to the present difficulties of FS management and should be changed. A national policy should be developed that reflects present day realities of the now existing enviormental conditions. (Present lack of rain and semi drought conditions in the critical months of reestablishing new forest tree plantings.)

Forest Service revenues should as a national policy be used to maintain and reestablish our forests and only then the excess funds put into the general fund. With changes in national policy and legislation the country will be able to maintain a stable forest base and viable forest industry, and at the same time insure that the forests can and will supply the commodities necessary to sustain our forest based industries.

Unless congress as the elected representatives of the people acts in a positive manner, we are heading towards a national diaster due to poor planning, underfunded management and lack of the funds required for replanting and proper forest management. Time is running out and America can not afford to have the same thing that is happening in Europe and other parts of the world happen here in America and especially in Eastern Oregon. The future is here with us today and congress should move positively and resolutely to corrrect our past mistakes. If nothing else has been accomplished by the HCNRA issue, it has provided a forum for information and discussion and a vehicle for congressional action.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you. I appreciate it very much.

We will go to Panel 21, Mr. Ed Trindle, Fred Wallender, Dave Parker. Go right ahead.

STATEMENT OF ED TRINDLE, SECOND DISTRICT, OREGON CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Mr. TRINDLE. Thank you. Senator Packwood, I am Ed Trindle.

I am a rancher from the Medical Springs area. I am President of the Baker County Livestock Association and a spokesman for the Second District of the Oregon Cattleman's Association.

You have introduced in the Congress legislative proposal S.B. 1803 that claims to provide increased environment and scenic protection to previously designated Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

My concern today is wilderness access restrictions for livestock grazing.

The Bridge Creek Wildlife Area is a ranch south of Ukiah, purchased by the Department of Fish and Wildlife 20 to 30 years ago. The ranch is in elk winter range and the rancher had had problems of elk for years.

The first Department of Fish and Wildlife management change after the purchase of the ranch was the removal of livestock. Within three years the elk preferred neighboring areas still grazed by livestock.

Proper livestock grazing prevents the forage from becoming coarse and impalatable. It provides regrowth that is more nutritional and palatable for elk.

A range scientist devised a livestock grazing program to enhance winter forage for elk.

After 20 years they now harvest more livestock grazing than the original rancher and elk have increased about five times the original number.

The ranch is in very good condition as observed by us four years ago.

As you see, livestock is a very important and usable means for harvesting the forage so most of the animals benefit.

By adding another 300,000 acres to the already nearly 828,900 existing wilderness areas is putting a negative impact on the economy of Northeast Oregon, especially Wallowa, Baker and Union Counties.

With direct impact on agriculture in the form of downstream requirement may limit irrigation, livestock grazing in the National Recreation Area, wilderness areas increasing costs, a loss of Wallowa County jobs and ranching income.

To put over 80 percent of Oregon's Hells Canyon acreage in wilderness is a slap in the face to the residents of Baker, Union and Wallowa Counties.

We have enough wilderness now and strongly urge you to reconsider your position to add 300,000 acres to the Hells Canyon National Recreation Areas and have the nerve to say "No" to those who push for wilderness, and say "Enough is enough."

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF FRED WALLENDER

Mr. **Wallender**. Senator Packwood, I am Fred Wallender, President of the Union County Livestock Association.

We go on record opposing Senate Bill 1803.

We all like recreation and know what it means to all of us. Today I would like to use the word, or the term recreate, which is to create again.

I think we need to recrete our views so that we utilize our natural resources totally, not just for a specialized group. And we can do so by harvesting our timber and our grass in a husband-like manner and also our big game can be harvested the same.

So let's all cultivate productivity and discourage non-productivity. Thank you.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you, sir. I appreciate it. Now we will hear from Skip Nichols, Mitch Lucas, Jean Durning, Bruce Honeyman.

STATEMENT OF JEAN C. DURNING, NORTHWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

Ms. **Durning**. Thank you very much, Senator.

I am Jean Durning, Northwest Regional Director of the Wilderness Society.

I am pleased to be here in La Grande in support of Senate 1803, Hells Canyon National Recreation Conservation Act.

The Wilderness Society is a nationwide organization of 160,000 members, including 2,200 Oregonians, of whom a fair number live in this northeast, wonderful, great, northeast part of Oregon.

The spectacular wild Hells Canyon country is a national treasure. Wilderness designation for the Mountain Sheep area, the whole Lord Flat country, the Lake Fork-Upper Imnaha area and other lands identified in S. 1803 would provide crucial protection to this nationally significant wild land.

Wilderness preservation is needed for many reasons other than primitive recreation, but for these additions to the Hells Canyon Wilderness, perhaps the most important reason is recreation, to protect crucial game habitat and preserve high quality water for spawning streams.

In Northeast Oregon, opposition to wilderness designation, or to lower levels of National Forest timber sales for other reasons, usually is tied to fears for the local economy. The issue is seen as jobs versus the environment.

When the economy of a region is as troubled as that of Northeastern Oregon counties, fears of job losses are very real and the climate is ripe for what has been called job blackmail.

Conservationists are blamed for all the ills of a weak economy. We become a scapegoat easier to attack than mortgage interest rates or the relative strength of the U.S. or Canadian dollar or increased mill efficiency that decreases the size of the work force.

None of these is related to timber supply.

Because of the importance of economics to sound political decisions the wilderness society established its own economics department and for several years has been studying economic issues related to the timber industry.

A basic truth applies to regional economies as it does to natural environments. The more diverse a system is, the more stable it is.

The stability of Northeast Oregon will improve as it becomes less dependent on a single industry.

Timber production will not disappear. But it is inherently an unstable cyclical industry.

Recreation will not entirely supplant timber, but as timber shrinks as its percentage of the economy somewhat, the growth of a recreation based economy can strengthen the total economy and increase its diversity.

Other economic bases can also be encouraged in this era when electronic communication makes disperse locations feasible.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Durning follows:]

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

NORTHWEST REGION

STATEMENT OF JEAN C. DURNING, NORTHWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR, THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY, IN SUPPORT OF S. 1803, THE HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA CONSERVATION ACT BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, AT LA GRANDE, OREGON, AUGUST 19, 1986.

I am pleased to be in La Grande today to testify on behalf of The Wilderness Society, a nationwide organization with 160,000 members including 2200 Oregonians. A number of our members live in this great Northeast part of Oregon. The Wilderness Society is dedicated to preserving wilderness and wildlife, protecting America's prime forests, parks, rivers and shorelands, and fostering an American land ethic.

The spectacular, wild Hells Canyon country was acknowledged as a national treasure a decade ago when Congress designated it a National Recreation Area. Unfortunately, the promise of that legislation has been thwarted. Except for the parts designated wilderness, the Forest Service has been logging -- even overcutting -- in contradiction to the primary purposes of the 1975 Act. It is to end the damage to this valuable land that the present bill is needed.

Wilderness designation for the Mountain Sheep area, the whole Lord Flat country, for the Lake Fork-Upper Imnaha area and other lands identified in S. 1803 would provide crucial

1424 FOURTH AVENUE, ROOM 822, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101
(206) 624-6430

protection to this nationally significant wild land. Wilderness preservation is needed for many reasons other than primitive recreation, but for these additions to the Hells Canyon Wilderness perhaps the most important reason is recreation -- to protect crucial game habitat and preserve high quality water for spawning streams. In prime elk country like this, winter thermal cover in headwaters of streams can determine the health of herds, and thus of the hunting economy. Water quality is closely related to disturbance of land in a watershed, and streams like the Imnaha are essential for the recovery of salmon and steelhead in the Columbia/Snake river system.

The Scenic Snake River designation should be extended downstream to the mouth of the Grande Ronde River, which will protect important Indian archaeological sites and good sturgeon habitat as well as that lovely stretch of the river itself. From the Grande Ronde down to Asotin, the Snake should be designated a Recreational River.

Misinterpretation of language in the original Hells Canyon Act (which permitted some timber harvesting by selective cutting) has led to substantial shelterwood logging -- a form of clearcutting by stages. The language of S.1803 is, unfortunately, necessary: "Any wood removal activity within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area shall be in furtherance of the objectives set forth in section 7 of this Act." [Those are (1) the maintenance and protection of the free-flowing nature of the rivers... (2)

conservation of scenic, wilderness, cultural, scientific and other values ... (3) preservation ... of all features and peculiarities believed to be biologically unique ... (4) protection and maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat; (5) protection of archaeological and paleontological sites ... (6) preservation of historic sites ... typifying the economic and social history of the region and the American West and (7) such management ... of natural resources ... including timber harvesting by selective cutting ... compatible with the purposes of this Act.]

In Northeast Oregon, opposition to wilderness designation (or to lower levels of National Forest timber harvest for other reasons) usually is tied to fears for the local economy. The issue is seen as "Jobs versus the Environment." When the economy of a region is as troubled as that of northeastern Oregon counties, fears of job losses are very real and the climate is ripe for what has been called "Job Blackmail." Conservationists are blamed for all the ills of a sick economy -- we become a scapegoat easier to attack than mortgage interest rates or the relative strength of the U.S. and Canadian dollar.

Because of the importance of economics to sound political decisions, The Wilderness Society established its own economics department, and for several years has been studying economic issues related to the timber industry.

A basic truth applies to regional economies as it does to natural environments: The more diverse a system is, the more stable it is. The stability of northeastern Oregon will improve as it becomes less dependent on a single industry. Timber production will not disappear, but it is inherently an unstable, cyclical industry. Recreation will not entirely supplant timber, but as timber shrinks somewhat, the growth of a recreation-based economy can strengthen the total economy and increase its diversity. Other economic bases can also be encouraged, in this era when electronic communication makes dispersed locations feasible, and managers can be attracted by the spectacular natural setting of places like La Grande and Enterprise.

In order for hunting, fishing, river-running and tourism to thrive in Wallowa county, however, the natural environment of places like the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area must be protected. By additional Wilderness designation and rededication to the purposes of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, S.1803 would do that.

Although The Wilderness Society strongly objects to much of the Forest Service appropriated road budget, we are willing to support appropriations for roads that would improve visitor access, as part of a plan to encourage a tourist industry. If wilderness and other aspects of S.1803 are adopted, we would support completion of the Wallowa Mountain Loop Road, and reconstruction of the Hat Point Road, Dug Bar Road and McGraw Road.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

Mr. KAPUSCINSKI. I am Jack Kapuscinski.

Senator PACKWOOD. Who are you?

Mr. KAPUSCINSKI. Jack Kapuscinski. You didn't announce me, but I am on Panel 22.

Senator PACKWOOD. That's fine. Go ahead.

STATEMENT OF JACK KAPUSCINSKI

Mr. KAPUSCINSKI. The proposal to preserve vast wilderness in and around Hells Canyon is obviously very controversial.

Such controversies is not foreign to me or probably the rest of us here.

However, the essence of this controversy is foreign to me. And it disturbs and perplexes me beyond expression.

I feel that perhaps our problem is one of perspective. As is so often the case in issues such as this, we must take a step back and look at the greater picture.

Hells Canyon is extinct from a different age. We are all aware that the canyon is the deepest gorge on our great planet, but do we all know, do we all understand what that means, how long it took for this natural wonder to form? Millions of years are necessary for water to carve out such an elaborate landscape. Tens of thousands of years of soil development to allow the delicate ecology that exists in the canyon today.

This amazing process was observed by thousands of creatures, now absent from the earth. Hells Canyon watched the evolution of mammals from the earliest forms to the saber tooth tiger and great ground sloth. Through to the Grizzly Bear and grey wolf who should now be re-introduced, this gorge has watched a myriad species pass across its face.

Unique plants existing nowhere else on earth persist to this day in Hells Canyon.

Among those who pass from the canyon, the last to go was the Nez Perce peoples of this area. The story of this remarkable culture intimately associated with the land remains inscribed in the canyon only as long as the ground is held intact.

All this history, all this time to create a natural and cultural treasure of global value, all of this, if not protected, can be destroyed in a few short years, a mere instant in the historical perspective of which we are only a minute part.

If this bill does not pass, I have no doubt, given my experience with the Forest Service and forest products industry, that this destruction will occur as evidenced by current practices in what is supposed to be a National Recreational Area.

All of this for the sake of corporate profits under the guise of local jobs made possible by taxpayer road building subsidies.

I wish Senator Hatfield was here to hear that.

If this happens, the forest won't grow back, then the jobs will disappear anyhow, and then we all, human and non-human alike, will lose.

Senator PACKWOD. Thank you. I can assure you, even though Mark isn't here, he has heard it before.

Mr. KAPUSCINSKI. He will hear it again.

STATEMENT OF BRUCE HONEYMAN

Mr. HONEYMAN. My name is Bruce Honeyman, Halfway.

I have had my employment in the forest for the past twelve years. Like many of us here, I wonder about the economic future of Northeast Oregon. But I also wonder about the ability of our system to sustain us in the future.

If we manage the resources properly it will sustain us in perpetuity.

If we draw on them beyond their capacity to renew, the health of our economy will diminish.

The right economy respects the power of the resource to renew itself.

If we continue at present levels of consumption, I believe that we are not respecting that power of renewal and that economic alternatives will be gone and our time here will be short.

I do not trust the short-term economic view of a concentrated economic base. Without diversity, there is no stability.

I would like to quote from Bill Mullison, Forest Primaculturer. "By the removal of rich forest alone we can produce deserts in any climate and by the removal of forest alone we can remove soils."

Now, I am certain that the removal of forests has been the main cause of the collapse of nations, because when the forests are gone, they just haven't got the water, the soil or the climatic quality to sustain human life thereafter.

So maybe we had better start to price the forest a little bit and to discover not how to live without them but how to live with them.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF MITCH LUCAS

Mr. LUCAS. My name is Mitch Lucas.

I want to go forth in strong support of this bill. More wilderness is welcome.

Hells Canyon sets Oregon apart from any other place on earth. This area is unique and represents unlimited resource potential, if it is protected and used wisely.

Here there are plant communities that appear nowhere else. There is only one spectacle of Hells Canyon, and when that is destroyed, there will be nothing to replace it.

There is a problem here, as with all the national forests in Region 6. This is a one of a kind area that is subject to the extreme and often illegal mismanagement of the Forest Service.

If left unchecked, the Forest Service will destroy major portions of this area through their multiple use of logging, mining and grazing. They don't even begin to approach doing their job as forest stewards.

I can go into any National Forest in Region 6 and see habitat destruction from over-grazing and over-logging, major decreases in plant and wildlife populations, destruction of anadromous fish habitat.

Medford Ranger District is a good example of that. In the Middle Santiam one can see entire mountain tops dead, disappeared through multiple use management. Deficit timber sales abound.

Why should the U.S. subsidize private lumber companies with U.S. timber money? Also we are over-grazing on much of the forest lands. And, again, the government subsidizes the price of this by offering the prices for these lands at far below what they could get on public lands.

Why should we subsidize the very often destruction of these areas?

Anyhow, I see the problem as being mismanagement on the part of our U.S. Forest Service and that the resources that we lose are far greater than what the few little bit of timber that they pull out of here is.

I think that will benefit in the long run if you protect these areas or at least save them until sometime down the line, we have an agency that can do its job and get the resources out and not destroy much more in the process.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you very much.

Now if we might to to Panel 23, Pat Combes, Don Morton, Gerald Perren, Paul Stephens, Roland Johnson.

STATEMENT OF GERALD J. PERREN, OREGON TOURISM COUNCIL

Mr. PERRIN. Senator Packwood, ladies and gentlemen, before I start my testimony, unfortunately you see only three of us up here. The other two are out fighting forest fires today and couldn't make it.

One, Marvin Maxwell, and he had testimomy from the Economic Development Company of Wallowa County. The second one, Don Morton, representing the Imnaha, Oregon and National Granges.

One other item. I do have a group of names here, petitions we have had out for less than three weeks. There are 1,526 names from throughout the Northwest that are opposed to the bill.

I will start with my testimony now.

I want to at this time put an end to the myth that adding to the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area will somehow benefit Oregon tourism or it will help offset the losses of timber and agricultural revenues that it will cost.

I should mention that I am a member of the Oregon Tourism Council and what I am saying can be borne out.

Agriculture, timber and tourism are not mutually exclusive. They can all develop together.

For example, at least two timber harvests have taken place in the Ollokot Campground on the Upper Imnaha since it became part of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. Yet many tourists rave about its beauty and park-like appearance. Additionally, they don't have to worry about over-ripe or dead trees falling on them or their camping gear.

Certainly some of the more popular water-centered wilderness areas serve as a magnet for attracting some tourists. But wilderness areas in general draw fewer tourists than multi-use areas.

As a matter of fact, current U.S.D.A. Forest Service recreation visitor day usage numbers for the Wallowa-Whitman show that there are 11.4 non-wilderness users for every wilderness user. Even on a per acre basis, which is probably a fair comparison, there are 3.78 non-wilderness users for every wilderness user.

Also, as you heard earlier, the visitor demand for the wilderness in the Wallowa-Whitman in the year 2030 will still be only 57 percent of current capacity.

Wilderness is also a tourism loser from a dollar standpoint. Certainly common sense suggests that a backpacker spends no money while in the wilderness area and only a small amount locally going to and from the wilderness.

On the other hand the visitor to a destination resort or a city convention center spends anywhere from $60 to $200 a day just for food and lodging.

This is illustrated by the tourist dollars spent in Oregon. Of the approximately $2 billion spent by tourists in Oregon in 1983, 44 percent was spent in Multnomah County, which has primarily destination facilities. Only two-tenths of one percent was spent in Wallowa County, which offers most primitive or semi-primitive recreation.

It should be noted that over 20 percent of Wallowa County is already designated as wilderness.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you, Jerry.

STATEMENT OF PATRICIA R. COMBES, WALLOWA LAKE TOURIST COMMITTEE

Ms. COMBES. Senator Packwood, I am Pat Combes, here today representing the Wallowa Lake Tourist Committee, which is 100 percent of all businesses at the head of Wallowa Lake.

Tourism is one of the main arteries of the economic bodies of Wallowa County.

Recreational users of Wallowa Lake only include over 1,000 summer cabin residents, over 40,000 visitors days in commercial facilities and over 400,000 visitor days annually in day and night use in the Wallowa Lake State Park.

Tourism needs you, Senators, to help protect the Wallowa-Whitman as a multiple use National Forest, not additional wilderness acreage for the benefit of all of these users.

Few visitors use the wilderness areas for more than one day during any visit. Local economic impact from wilderness users is insignificant. Visitor comment is requests for more access to areas, not less.

I refer you to the Wallowa-Whitman Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Land and Resource Management Plan of 1986, Table 3-10 in Book 3, Page 58.

Present recreational visitor days and wilderness are now only 33 percent of current capacity. Each of the next four decades utilize only 41, 47, 51 and 57 percent respectively of the existing wilderness acres.

With the ever-increasing average age of our population, with 50 percent of the recreational dollars and certainly the bulk of leisure time in the hands of people over 60 years of age, consideration must be given to multiple use forests.

Consider Switzerland, a country where there is not primitive wilderness set-aside, but rather that beauty is accessible to all. Why else is it that Switzerland is the most visited foreign country by U.S. Senators?

No one argues that wilderness acres are wonderful preservation of unique areas, but enough is enough.

Multiple use gives visual pleasure, fishing and hunting, livestock grazing and timber harvesting.

Multiple use benefits many, many more people and still gives us the forest lands to use as well as enjoy.

Please give us this your best consideration.

Senator PACKWOOD. Let the record show, I have never been to Switzerland.

STATEMENT OF ROLAND W. JOHNSON, WALLOWA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. JOHNSON. My name is Roland W. Johnson, Senator Packwood, and I am here on behalf of the Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber is opposed to Senate Bill 1803.

In the limited time available to me, I want to focus on the county's economic difficulties.

Without getting into specific numbers, the bill clearly will reduce the annual allowable timber harvest and it is clear that this will have a substantial and negative impact on the local economy.

At best, passage of the bill would create only a few recreation jobs, at low wages, and on a seasonal basis. We simply cannot afford the bill.

Wallowa County is presently suffering the most severe economic distress since the great depression. This is due principally to severe depression in our two major industries, timber and agriculture.

Here are a few facts which have occurred since 1980 which I am giving you to illustrate the substantial nature of our economic difficulties.

There has been a severe deflation in the value of all classes of real property. Agricultural crop lands are down almost one-half in value. Other classes of realty are down 30 to 40 percent in value.

There have been an extraordinary number of foreclosures of all types.

There have been a large number of business failures resulting in substantial numbers of vacant store and commercial properties.

One of the two small locally owned banks have failed. Three local lumber mills have failed. At least two major logging firms have failed or terminated operations within Wallowa County.

Incomes are down substantially. Recently, for example, there was a work stoppage in connection with a labor dispute at Rouge Mill in Wallowa, and the dispute was over whether the employees would receive a $1.50 or $2.00 an hour cut. A large cut was agreed upon.

Boise Cascade has similar negotiations pending currently with its employees.

Income has been drastically reduced in the agricultural sector.

As a consequence of distress in the agriculture and timber sectors of the economy, both income and employment are down in the retail and service sectors.

Population is down. Those who are unemployed or whose businesses have failed, have had to move elsewhere to find work. Houses have been virtually unsalable and the rental and total vacancy rates have soared. Student numbers in the local schools have dropped precipitously, and programs have been slashed as the school's per capita receipts have declined.

All of this has occurred with accompanying personal and family hardship and stress. We have people involved.

For every business, farm failure or layoff, there is usually despair for those involved. Personal dreams and hopes destroyed, often marriages are shattered.

I believe you are a man of goodwill and decency who will take the morally correct action when you are fully informed of the facts. Surely your clear duty is to protect the rights of your constituents to economic justice by withdrawing this bill, and I trust you will do so.

Senator PACKWOOD. Now we will go to Panel 24, Dr. Stephen Thompson, Rob Clapp, Cilla Coe, Julie Norman, David Atkin.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Johnson follows:]

STATEMENT OF THE WALLOWA COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 1803

My name is Roland W. Johnson of Wallowa, Oregon and I have been asked to speak on behalf of the Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is opposed to Senate Bill No. 1803.

Without getting into specific numbers, the bill clearly will reduce the annual allowable timber harvest and it is clear that this will have a substantial negative impact upon the local economy.

We simply cannot afford the bill. Wallowa County is presently suffering the most severe economic distress since the great depression. This is due principally to severe depression in our two major industries--timber and agriculture. Here are a few facts, which have occurred since 1980, which I am giving you to illustrate the substantial nature of our economic difficulties:

1. **Real Property Decline.** There has been severe deflation in the value of all classes of real property. Croplands are down almost one-half in value and other classes of realty are down 30% to 40% in value.

2. **Foreclosures.** There have been an extraordinary number of foreclosures of all types.

3. **Business Failures.** There have been a large number of business failures, resulting in substantial numbers of vacant store and commercial properties. One of

the two small locally owned banks has failed. Three local lumber mills have failed. At least two major logging firms have failed or terminated operations within Wallowa County.

4. **Reduced Incomes.** Incomes are down substantially. Recently, for example, there was a work stoppage in connection with a labor dispute at Rogge's Mill in Wallowa over whether the employees would receive a \$1.50 or \$2.00 per hour wage cut; the larger cut was agreed upon. Boise Cascade has similar negotiations pending with its employees. Income has been drastically reduced in the agriculture sector. As a consequence of distress in the agriculture and timber sectors of the economy, both income and employment are down in the retail and service sectors.

5. **Reduced Population.** Population is down. Those who are unemployed or whose business failed have had to move elsewhere to find work. Houses have been virtually unsalable and the rental and total vacancy rates have soared. Student numbers in the local schools have been dropping precipitously and programs have been slashed as the schools' per capita receipts decline.

6. **Personal Despair.** All of this has occurred with accompanying personal and family hardship and stress. For every business, farm failure or layoff there is usually despair for those involved--personal dreams and hopes destroyed and marriages shattered.

I believe you to be men of goodwill and decency who will take the morally correct action when you are fully informed of the facts. Surely your clear duty is to protect the right of your constituents to economic justice by defeating this bill. I trust you will do so.

Dated this 18th day of August ,1986.

Respectfully submitted,

Roland W. Johnson

Roland W. Johnson
Spokesman, Wallowa County
Chamber of Commerce

STATEMENT OF ROB CLAPP

Mr. CLAPP. I am a resident of Pendleton, Oregon. I am what one might call an environmentalist and I have wandered extensively throughout most of the United States.

These then are my qualifications: I am not an untraveled observer of nature.

As such, I state that I rarely seen anything that rivals, let alone surpasses, the beauty of the Upper Imnaha.

Furthermore, in this role of concerned observer, I will do what is in my power to see that its watershed does not go to fuel the deaththroes of industry presently engaged in the process of kicking its own proverbial bucket.

And in this light, it is sad to say that my argument must necessarily be one of economics, for that is what this all comes down to, a question of economic expedience.

The residents of areas such as this all across the State, think it is expedient to fell as many tress as possible in the name of prosperity and survival.

The timber industry thinks it is expedient to take what it can and get out with a clear profit margin.

The problem is that these two views are in fact irreconcilably diametrically opposed. Though it would not appear so to the lumberman trying to feed his family on shorter working hours each year.

The timber industry presently phasing out its in-State operations is heading literally south for a long hard winter.

This has happened before. It will happen again.

Enterprise lost a third of its population back in '29 due to mill closures. People thought it was the end back then.

We have an equivalent amount of doomsayers around today. But the truth is, it is not the end. Big timber concerns will be back in another 25 years or so.

And given that this cyclic process is an undeniable fact, only one question remains. Who does the salvaging?

Do the big timber companies salvage a hefty profit at the expense of families on welfare, amidst a broken and barren countryside, or do we, the residents of Northeastern Oregon, manage to save a place that is unique in the world?

In my opinion it will serve no useful purpose to turn this legacy over to those that blindly perceive only one use for it.

For those who ascribe to this mono-utilitarian view are those who will be forced to leave when the cutting is done. They will not be around for the aftermath.

The problem then is this: Those who want to log extensively in the Hells Canyon area are not in the least thinking of the future, and I don't even mean the future to be encompassed by their grandchildren but the future of five years' time, of ten years' time. For if the irresponsible management of thoughtless destruction and the over-weening arrogance that have been the historic hallmarks of the timber industry are to continue, then the blow will fall all the more harshly when the last big mills finally do pull out. The economic crunch we feel now will seem like a pillow fight by comparison.

At that point in time, if things proceed in their present course, there won't even be a tourist trade to fall back on.

After all, who will want to go to the denuded mountains or swim and fish in the slash-poisoned streams?

So then we must conserve. And I don't mean halt all logging operations. Some must continue. But to the tune of 90 million board feet in the next 5 years out of the Hells Canyon area? That's not necessary. It is not even expedient. In fact it is economic and environmental murder.

In that particular scenario of conflict, no one will win, and some of us will have to dwell in the battle field, a field that extends well beyond the Hells Canyon area itself.

So let Weyerhaeuser and its compatriots move to North Carolina and Georgia. They are going to do it anyway. Preserve what mountains and jobs you can, because the other way, the fast and easy way, you will lose both irreparably. And most of all, ask yourself these questions, can I allow one of the most precious fragile and rare habitats on the face of the plant to the sacrified in order to stave off eventual inevitable economic upheaval?

Can I turn my back so as not to see it happening? And can I allow others to turn theirs?

Thank you for your time.

STATEMENT OF JULIE NORMAN

Ms. NORMAN. My name is Julie Norman.

I live in Southwestern Oregon in the Rogue River Valley. It's good to be up here in the other corner of the State.

I moved to Oregon 10 years ago and I have been working as a white water guide in the summer and a computer consultant in the winter.

And four days ago I just got off a six day trip on the Hells Canyon and had an excellent trip.

Today I would like to add two points to the previous testimony in full support of your bill.

The recreation industry exists right now. The recreation industry has been a steady source of income for me for the past twelve years and all indications are that the people are willing to pay for guides as well as equipment and support services.

I now make $70 a day. My paychecks keep coming and I don't believe that our river trips degrade the resource.

We don't have to wait for jobs in the recreation industry. Instead of clinging solely to the timber industry which is being transformed by forces far outside our area, and beyond our control. I suggest that we work together to offer high quality outdoor experiences to people of all ages and inclinations.

I think it's important for us to remember the context of which we live here in America in 1986. The poisonous side-effects of modern industrialized society have become very clear in the past 15 years. I have seen it in my own life. Especially on the East Coast.

I pray that we have the wisdom and the forethought to safeguard the land and the waters of the Northwest so that Americans still have a place to go for their needed relaxation, the vigorous physical activity that we all need, and spiritual renewal.

The second point I have to make today has to do with the level of allowable cut.

About a year-and-a-half ago I become involved in the planning process for the Siskiyou National Forest and I started using my computer experience to study the use of the Foreman's Simulation Model which they use now to compute the allowable cut for each National Forest. And what I found is this:

One, the input data to the model is so complex. And therefore it is inaccurate and over-optimistic. Specifically, in terms of the yield tables which project how much timber is going to regrow in the second growth stands and also the economic values for the projected market values out in the next 50 years.

Two, the complexity of the input data makes it impossible to understand the relationship between all the different management alternatives which are being considered.

And therefore, three, the model cannot hope to accurately describe a complete forest ecosystem and the different management techniques that might be used on all of those millions of acres.

Senator PACKWOOD. I will have to ask you to conclude.

Ms. NORMAN. OK. Economic diversity.

Senator PACKWOOD. Next?

STATEMENT OF PRISCILLA COE

Ms. COE. I am Cilla Coe. I am a resident of La Grande, Oregon. I am in favor of your proposed Management Plan for Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

I have hiked and camped in the NRA for ten years and can attest to its value as a national treasure. It is spectacular, spiritually invigorating and diverse in fauna and flora.

As a part owner of this land I favor a plan of light use and one which will leave the large roadless country as it is.

Why? For reasons global, national and local.

Globally, it makes little sense to continue eating away at any land still left largely untouched. Five billion people are on this planet today because of an unnatural technological advancement in human survival.

Continuing to use the land without artificial controls such as this legislation is unwise, to say the least.

We still don't understand how to keep other species from exiting this planet as an unnatural rate.

Nationally these roadless areas will offer a tiny drop to the bucket of commerce. But their value as a Recreation Area and a haven for American wildlife will only grow the longer we hang onto it.

Globally, it is a different story. It means coming here today to espouse a plan, a plan that will likely take jobs away from my own neighbors.

For me that's not easy to do. But I can't believe that the harvest and development to be gained from these wilderness areas will do much to ensure long term economic stability for my neighbors and their children.

It isn't fair, as some say, that Wallowa County has so much public land.

If it had been private, it would have been developed long ago and we would have little to argue about.

Instead, it's there, it's still wild enough perhaps to support a few Grizzleys.

I'm a Republican, a conservative, a conservationist. I urge the conservative approach to the precious wilderness areas and Hells Canyon.

Thank you for listening to our views.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you very much.

Next we will move to Panel 25, Mike Hanrahan, Terry Shepherd, Dick Williams, Hal Burkitt.

Go right ahead, fellows.

STATEMENT OF DICKSON WILLIAMS

Mr. WILLIAMS. I appreciate this opportunity. You know, a lot of facts have been given, Senator——

Senator PACKWOOD. Please give the reporter your name.

Mr. WILLIAMS. I am sorry. Dickson Williams. D-i-c-k-s-o-n. I think the witness list says Dick Williams.

I would like to put my statement more on a personal vein.

When I am not working, one of the things I call fun is being a scout master. About two weeks ago, with some other adults, we took a little group of scouts up in the Eagle Cap Wilderness Area.

We spent a whole week up there. We went on a 50 mile hike. That is fantastic country and I love it. I have been up there for the last five years and we have decided we are going to make this an annual event. I don't know anyplace on earth that is more beautiful. As a matter of fact, 20 years ago I helped build part of the wilderness trail in the Strawberry area over near John Day.

I love the type of life that you can have when you are up there and the peace that comes with it.

I think it is very important to preserve the heritage that we have in this great wilderness. God gave man the resources to use with prudence and with judgment. And, you know, it turns my stomach sometimes when I see poor logging and forest management practices. It's an ugly scene.

But the proper use of good saw timber is vital to thousands of families and their economic future. There is a lot of high quality saw timber in that proposed new wilderness area. The wilderness areas that is already there is quite vast. That's a lot of land.

I'm not opposed to parts of that wilderness area that would like to be set-aside that don't have high quality usable product in them that could be regenerated.

But those products that need to be used and regrown, we need to get after and keep the economy going. We can't afford to continue to let our economy slide.

I don't know if you remember seeing the move Karate Kid, but in there Mr. Miaggi told Danial some very good points in life, and one of them was to have balance.

Senator, Senate Bill 1803 doesn't have balance.

Senator, I'm opposed to it, because of jobs. I don't know how many people that are in favor of it would lose their jobs if it didn't pass.

Please drop Senate bill 1803, and manage this renewable resource.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF TERRY SHEPHERD, CLARKE'S SHEET METAL, INC.

Mr. SHEPHERD. Senator, ladies and gentlemen, my name is Terry Shepherd.

I am a sales engineer for Clarke Sheet Metal from Eugene.

Our company has had an established business relationship with the wood products companies in the Eastern Oregon region in general and with Boise Cascade in particular since 1972.

We are a major supplier to this area of wood waste pneumatic and mechanical conveying equipment, pollution control and electronic spark detection and extinguishment systems.

During the past three years we have done in excess of one million dollars worth of business with the four local Boise Cascade plants alone.

It is evident that the proposed Hells Canyon wilderness area will cause a reduction of available timber to the local mills of about 12 to 15 million board feet per year. This in turn would necessitate a closure of at least one of their regional mills.

The affect of this mill closure could realistically cost our company $250,000 a year in gross sales.

As we currently employ about a hundred people, this could relate to a reduction in our employees by at least three people. This would compute obviously to about three percent of our total employment.

This loss of sales and employment will not affect Clarke's alone, as there are many other suppliers to this region that are based in Portland, Eugene, Medford, Salem, Roseburg, all of whom will be similarly affected.

As a practical matter, aside from business, our company feels there is already a sufficient amount of established wilderness area available to the public and so feel what we need is more jobs, not more wilderness.

Therefore we strongly oppose the passing of the Hells Canyon Wilderness Senate Bill 1803.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF HAROLD H. BURKITT

Mr. BURKITT. My name is Hal Burkitt, Harold H. Burkitt, but, for the record, on the witness list my name was misspelled.

I am a resident of Portland, Oregon, and President of H. H. Burkitt, Project Management Incorporated, a consulting engineering firm that I founded ten years ago. Prior to that I was chief of engineering services for the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

I'm a native born resident of this great State of Oregon. I truly love this State, its magnificent beauty, its ruggedness, its climate and its diverse scenery from the Pacific Ocean to the Snake River, from the Columbia River to the Klamath Basin and the high arid plateau country of Harney and Malheur Counties east of Winema and Fremont National Forests.

I have fished and hunted this country since I was a boy. I am an outdoorsman.

I am also an environmentalist. As such, I believe that our resources must be properly managed and utilized.

By resources, I mean those that occur naturally, as well as those developed by and for the use of mankind, including man himself.

We must make the best use of all of these resources in combined harmony in order for man to survive.

Forests are one of Oregon's prime resources. Timber companies are another.

Oregon's economy is dependent upon our timber resources. Our timber companies provide the jobs so that we can earn the living to put food on the table, clothe our families and build the shelter we call home. They pay taxes that support costs for services in school systems that all of us expect.

Ultimately, they allow us the continued enjoyment of the outdoors through good forest management practices.

These timber companies are as concerned about our forests and their ecosystems as anyone here today.

Remember, without the forest, trees, these timber companies would cease to exist. These companies are composed of shareholders, just like you and me. I know that the management of these companies would not like to report to their shareholders that they are out of business because the trees are all gone, we mismanaged our timber resource.

Good timber management helps to prevent the kind of disaster that is presently plaguing our forests here in Northeast Oregon, Idaho and Eastern Washington.

The failure to take appropriate action when the pine beetle was infesting our lodgepole pine has left vast stands of tinder dry timber, which is now fueling many of these forest fires.

As some in attendance here know, my company played a major role in the design of the plant at North Powder, Oregon. This facility gasifies the waste food residues from the beetle killed lodgepole pine stands on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest to produce steam to generate electric power.

Yes, we are utilizing wastes for the benefit of society, but had we better managed this resource, we would have had quality lumber and pulp chips in addition to the waste wood residues to fuel such a facility.

Presently there is enough dead lodgepole pine to fuel many more facilities like the North Powder generation plant. However, due to the surplus of electrical energy within the Bonneville Power Administration service area, we simply do not need any additional generation capacity.

What a dilemma. In retrospect, we have not managed our natural resources, we have only inventoried and attempted to preserve them.

The creation of any additional wilderness areas, while it sounds good on the surface, is in reality a waste of our resources.

It is not prudent guardianship of our environment or resources that we cherish here in the great Northwest. It puts our resources in jeopardy.

Our forests, our jobs and the quality of life that we treasure may be lost forever. Last year employment in this industry dropped by approximately 3,000 workers, down from 66,631 employees in 1984, while two more sawmills were forced to close.

Loss of additional timber will certainly increase the already high unemployment in this industry which is basic to Oregon's economy.

In the end, all we will be able to say is that we inventoried and set them aside for posterity, attempting to preserve it for all time. Unfortunately, if a forest goes unattended, like any garden, it will age, die, and decay into another dry tinder box.

History has continually shown us that forests go through these life cycles. In other words, the forests will have gone through this evolutionary cycle without ever having benefited mankind.

Like all living things on this planet, trees also have a life span.

In reality, man can help mother nature by nurturing our forest resources. He can manage the forest resource through timber stand improvement projects and forest rotation. He can harvest it like any other crop when it is ripe. He can replant it with young seedlings, protecting them so they, too, will grow to maturity, for the next generation to enjoy, thus assuring the continued rapid generation cycle and sustained yields that should be expected from this limited resource.

All of this can be achieved on a short rotation basis as compared to the lengthy evolutionary cycle in nature. This is what prudent management of Oregon's resources is all about. It allows all of us the continued enjoyment and benefits of the multiple use aspects of Oregon's forest resources.

While roadless areas may also sound great to the avid outdoorman, in reality they prevent us from the ready access to these timber stands in the pursuit of good forest management practices, for fire protection and the harvesting of mature trees for the beneficial use of mankind.

Reforestation after a fire and the continued management of the forest resource is simply not achievable. To reduce the pressure on our wild and scenic acreas, only those with direct responsibility in the management of the timber resource should be allowed access to these areas.

Those of us who desire to continue enjoyment of the wilderness experience would do so under present guidelines.

Please, let's have a good multiple use plan for the benefit of all of us for the environment of all of us.

Senator Packwood. Thank you. Now let's go to Panel 26, James Baker, Anthony Sowers, Patricia Honeycutt Moen, George Venn, Kristy Stouffer, Jack and Lois Barry, Patrick McCarthy, Robert Branscomb.

STATEMENT OF LOIS BARRY

Ms. Barry. My name is Lois Barry.

I have lived in Eastern Oregon for 20 years.

Hells Canyon is not a nature theme park created to turn a profit, and it isn't a Boise Cascade controlled forest, planted for maximum growth and maximum profits.

Nevertheless, it is a protective area. It's a marvelous antedote to the commercial world of rectangular concrete and asphalt. It has no traffic lights and no time clocks.

Hells Canyon is a land of clear light and mile long shadows where time is told in millions of years.

Some of the trees are older than our Statue of Liberty.

Hells Canyon is productive because so far it has escaped most exploitation.

We need these places to remind us of the earth before man learned to control his environment.

We often hear people say they wished they could get away from the problems of modern society, the pressures that drive human beings to abuse themselves and each other. In the Hells Canyon wilderness there is that "away."

Even for those who may never enter the wilderness, it is vital to know that an unspoiled, unexploited region of this country still exists.

We can't be selfish enough to say that it is only ours, that it doesn't belong to people from Iowa and Nebraska and New Jersey. Hells Canyon is a national treasure.

In France the Bayeux Tapestry is an 800 year old national treasure. It's an exquisite tapestry. 220 feet long and almost two feet wide. And it preserves the history of the Norman Conquest. One foot square pieces of that Tapestry would sell for at least a million dollars each. But that suggestion would be greeted by any Frenchman as sacrilege.

In Oregon, Hells Canyon was formed over millions of years. It is an unequalled canyon more than 26 miles long and 7,000 feet deep. It preserves the history of the formation of the earth. And to cut up Hells Canyon for profit should be as unthinkable as cutting up the Bayeux Tapestry.

The S.O.S. advocates testifying here today hope to make money from Hells Canyon. Many of them are drawing their salaries while they are here.

On the other hand, most of the environmentalists are sacrificing income or vacation time to testify.

Young or old, we are mature enough and humble enough to know that we have no right to cut and plunder Hell's Canyon.

Senator **Packwood**. I will have to ask you to conclude.

Ms. **Barry**. We are almost too late in realizing that when we exploit and damage the environment, we also exploit and damage ourselves.

We need Hells Canyon intact. I urge the support of Senator Packwood's Bill.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PATRICIA HONEYCUTT MOEN, OREGON DIVISION, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.

Ms. **Moen**. Senator Packwood, it is pleasure to see you again.

My name is Patricia Honeycutt Moen. I am the National Executive Director of the Izaak Walton League's Public Lands Preservation Task Force. Additionally I am vice-president of the Portland Chapter of Isaak Walton and I bring this proposal that we have before you on behalf of the Oregon Division of the Portland chapter and the national Isaak Walton League.

What you will see in there, I will not read through it. I'll simply leave you the paper work. I will capsulize it in a couple of ways.

And that is that in July the National Izaak Walton League held their national convention and for the fourth year running Hells Canyon came up one more time.

What we have before you is a proposition endorsing the bill as it sits. However, making two major changes. Let the cattle allotments and the livestock allotments that are presently active within that area remain. Those that are not presently active or have been inactive for three years, to terminate them.

And the second condition is that we propose a re-designation—I want to leave alive, really—a re-designation of the Hells Canyon NRA into the Hells Canyon National Preserve.

The reason being that you have foregone an opportunity, had this become a national park several years ago, you would have had access to countless millions of dollars worth of free publication and free promotion. That would have brought the tourism. And I am speaking to tourism at this point and to conservation.

One of the problems is that I haven't seen a great deal of compromise between the logging industry, the economic base and where do we go from here. There may be some advantages to that and I would encourage you to look into what a Hells Canyon National Preserve or national park could do for you.

I recommended preserve because that allows you to still hunt and fish in there and still run the river. But it does make some changes.

I would consider that that gradual input into a national preserve might be wise use for all concerned.

[The prepared statement of Ms. Moen follows:]

**PUBLIC LANDS
RESTORATION
TASK FORCE**
OREGON DIVISION, IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.

M

STATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

by

PATRICIA HONEYCUTT MOEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
PUBLIC LANDS RESTORATION TASK FORCE
&
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.
OREGON DIVISION
&
IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.

Senators, Governor, honored guests, interested residents, and respected collegues,

I am Patricia Honeycutt Moen. I represent the Oregon Division, Izaak Walton League of America, Inc., and Izaak Walton Public Lands Restoration Task Force, which serves all states in the United States which have public lands within their boundaries.

On behalf of the Izaak Walton League of America and Public Lands Restoration Task Force, I thank you, Senator Hatfield, for scheduling this hearing so that interested parties may be heard concerning the future of Hells Canyon.

The League on a local, State, and National level, supports the legislation proposed by Senator Packwood to further protect Hells Canyon by establishing additional wilderness, substantially limiting timber removal from the National Recreation Area and designating the lower Snake River as a Wild and Scenic River.

Last summer, at the 10th anniversary of the HRS, Senator Packwood stated the situation well when he said, " What we save today, in ten years won't be 50% enough. In fifty years, it won't be 10% enough."

We recommend two additions to this legislation:

1. A directive to the National Forest Service to cancel and eliminate livestock grazing permits which are currently inactive.

Many of these permits are obviously not in use because it is not economically feasible to graze these remote lands, especially if necessary riparian protection is practiced.

2. The NRA should be redesignated as The Hells Canyon National Preserve and the management policies should be similar to those of the Alaska National Preserves which were created under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980.

The U.S. Forest Service in the past few years has become responsible for a mini-national park system at Hells Canyon, the Oregon Dunes, the Sawtooths, Mt. St. Helens and in the future, more likely than not, the Columbia Gorge. This responsibility requires that the Forest Service create a "National Interest Areas" office and should develope policies that recognize that these are not typical multiple-use lands. Undoubtedly, should the Forest Service fail in the management responsibilities, I am certain the National Park Service would be interested in "saving the day". The Forest Service needs Congressional authorization and perhaps appropriations to establish a direction for lands the Forest Service would manage as "National Interest Areas".

In conclusion, the current legislation introduced by Senator Packwood is necessary and should be passed. Additional components should be included in the legislation.

I am the daughter of a fine and careful logger, who probably qualifies as well as anyone in this room as a good conservationist, long before it was fashionable. He taught every one of his children the virtues of treating natural resources as a non-renewable crop...if ever they were destroyed. I do not make this statement against industry, as much as I make it on behalf of an entity which cannot speak for itself; Hells Canyon and her

H

Page Three.
8-19-86
Testimony to Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

one-of-a-kind beauty. A beauty which belongs to every person, not only loggers and ranchers.

The economic value of this proposal is something the residents of this community would do well to investigate. A National Park was turned away, with all its publicity and promotion which the Government does annually... thereby, the economic benefits were not felt by the community. This is yet another opportunity to let natural beauty bring additional dollars in clean industry to this area. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Honeycutt Moen

Patricia Honeycutt Moen
Executive Director,
Public Lands Restoration Task Force
Oregon Division, Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.
1986 Oregon Div. Waltonian of the Year
1986-87 Vice-President, Portland Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America, Inc.

CC: 20

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PATRICK McCARTHY

Mr. McCARTHY. My name is Patrick McCarthy.

I am assistant professor of communication at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Indiana, where I teach film and television.

To the best of my knowledge, I have produced the only film on Hells Canyon ever to be made available to the general public. The film is entitled *Hells Canyon, An Historical Glimpse*. And it is marketed on video by Washington State University.

However, my interest in Hells Canyon extends beyond my role as a documentarist in making audiovisual productions about western history.

I was reared in a small town in Idaho and in 39 years of Idaho residency I learned to appreciate how valuable Hells Canyon is as a cultural, historical, scenic, and recreational resource.

My testimony is fairly simple. In many respects we are a nation of users and abusers, and destroyers of the landscape. America was built in part upon the notion that the land was exploitable and our quality of life and damage to the environment were ill-considered in the process.

This selfish, narrow thinking is still quite prominent today. In fact, the dominant ideology of business, industry and the individual seems to be "What can I do for myself?" with only marginal concern coming to mind for other people and those places which would truly enrich our existence.

Despite this mode of thought, Hells Canyon is one place which has something for everyone. It is an invaluable natural playground for outdoor enthusiasts and a fragile national treasure which houses remnants of our cultural and historical heritage.

Yet Hells Canyon needs our continued assistance and protection.

How can we offer that protection?

In a time when the federal administration fosters self-interest and economic concerns supersede human values, Americans have become increasingly paranoid, self-centered and selfish. Subsequently a place like Hells Canyon becomes especially vulnerable to exploitation.

Look at it this way: In this life there are givers and there are takers. In short there are those who seek to preserve and protect the environment and those who seek to exploit it.

Since Hells Canyon has become such a polarized issue, all of us should think about preserving the canyon as a way of getting back to nature or renewing what nature has yielded in the form of this great gorge for our appreciation and pleasure.

American history reveals that we take from the environment in many ways but seldom do we protect and preserve our natural resources.

Therefore it is time to give something back to Hells Canyon.

One way to do so is to support passage of Senate Bill 1803 which will help maintain our cultural and historical heritage in Hells Canyon, keep intact the many recreational opportunities there and preserve its unparalleled scenic and aesthetic beauty. In this light, giving is clearly more important than receiving. Similarly, preservation is the only clear alternative to exploitation.

Accordingly, I support Senate Bill 1803 as a means to protect the future of Hells Canyon and the multi-faceted legacy that it has left to all of us.

STATEMENT OF JAMES A. BAKER, KINSEY GUARDIANS OF BLUE RIVER, OR

Mr. **Baker**. Senator, it is good to see you again. My name is Jame A. Baker. I am representing Kinsey Guardians of Blue River, Oregon.

I see in your commercials that you are wearing those jeans your brother-in-law gave you last year, but I don't see the red suspenders. Those were a fine set of suspenders.

I represent a group from the Cascades, from another beautiful river, but totally different. Our members come over here to recreate. We are some of the people who come over to spend money. We are over here now in RV's. We are not pooping on the ground. We spend money in the stores.

We like La Grande. We like Wallowa County.

It would be more desirable if the National Recreation Area was properly managed. This can be done, as I mentioned to Senator Hatfield in the hall, it's just as simple as Rainbow Falls was, a simple correction. Even the Forest Service will be able to understand the management of a National Recreation Area.

And if the shortage of logs will hurt so bad, I will be glad to sell some of these outfits at some honest price, not government welfare prices.

I noticed in Random Links last week that Oliver is going for twice the price of Douglas fir.

Can you imagine that?

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ANTHONY E. SOWERS

Mr. **Sowers**. My name is Tony Sowers. I am supporting your efforts, Senator. I have turned in my comments in writing. I would like to depart from those to make a few comments on what I have heard here today. I have been trying to put them together in my head.

The forest products industry has historically been a boom bust operation, here and elsewhere, leaving behind closed mills and broken lives and people having to move on.

Now, that's not to say that it's any different from many of our other industries. Our present steel industry is the same situation. It doesn't make it unique.

But it is a declining employer. Not only because of environmental issues and that sort of thing, but also and very largely because it's too darn costly to hire people.

Therefore, you buy machines.

Now, that's partly tax structure, it's a lot of things. But that is a fact.

Now, I suggest that it is valuable to foster the growth of other ways of making a living when you have one way of making a living declining. I see that in the tourist industry.

I recently for the first time in my life, I grew up with the idea that, my God, if you want to go out to the mountains, go out to the mountains, big deal.

But that's not the way it is now. I paid $50 a day to have someone guide me last year in wilderness country in Montana—or Wyoming—excuse me—Idaho. Here I am getting all screwed up. That's the first time that's ever happened to me. And it happens to a lot of people today. They make good money in the cities, they know nothing about living in the country, they are willing to pay for that knowledge.

Now, I suggest that we are in the same position in some sense as ancient Carthage. Carthage disappeared because it failed to pay attention to what was going on around it. It failed to pay attention to the effect that cutting timber was having on its environment and its ability to survive.

I would like to see us put some of our resources aside and leave them for future generations to make the decision.

Putting land or other resources into a wilderness or into a place where it can't be touched in the short term, sometime leaves it available for the country when the Congress chooses that it is essential, it does not lock it away permanently.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Sowers follows:]

HALF-BAKED ENTERPRISES

Mail PO Box 910
UPS Route 1 Box 148A
Halfway Oregon 97834
503/742-4115

August 18, 1986

Public Lands Sub-Committee
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Senators Hatfield and Packwood

Re: Hells Canyon NRA wilderness additions

I wish to be on record as supporting the wilderness additions and management limitations as incorporated in the current Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill.

The following comments are offered as input to the decision making process. The order in which they are presented does not indicate anything in terms of relative importance.

I Economic Issues

It is clear that an overwhelming proportion of the citizens of Eastern Oregon are concerned with their future livelihood. The timber products industry has played into that concern by suggesting that removal of more land into wilderness would cause widespread unemployment. They have, therefore, garnered a lot of support for the "Community Stability Alternative", calling for an increase in logging and no further wilderness additions.

I suggest that the opposite could well be true. The timber products industry has traditionally been one of boom and bust, with many collapsed communities left in its wake. In addition, due to mechanization, there are far fewer jobs now than there would have been a few years ago, even with high levels of cutting.

It appears to me that stability in Eastern Oregon can best be achieved by fostering new economic activity that has the potential of employing large numbers of people, including those displaced by the decline of the Northwest timber industry. I speak of the recreational and tourist industry that is now growing at high rates.

I live in a small community called Halfway. We have some 1500 persons living in our area and it is doubtful if more than a dozen gain their living from the timber products industry. The timber industry closed their mill here 15 years ago and moved to Baker - 50 miles distant. Maintaining a high level of cutting here does very little for Halfway and may destroy part of our recreational future!

It is essential that we preserve what is left of our heritage as a recreational resource. If, as some say, the nation critically needs the timber at some future date, it can be returned to cutting as easily as it can be saved at present.

II WATER ISSUES

Ranching has been one of the mainstays of the economy of Eastern Oregon. That ranching is dependent on irrigation water from snow-melt to grow hay and grain for feeding cattle during the winter when they cannot forage for themselves.

Timbering has, according to hydrologists, very little effect on total water runoff. Please note that this statement is only true so long as the forest is maintained at a level which keeps a relatively low radiation temperature and thus preserves historical rainfall patterns. At some point, as has happened, for example, in the Amazon Basin, rainfall starts to by-pass the denuded slopes.

Assuming no change in precipitation patterns, opening up a forest by cutting causes more rapid spring snowmelt and, thus, earlier runoff of the water. Studies indicate advances in peak flow of 20 to 30 days -- enough to eliminate the second or third hay cutting due to lack of irrigation. This effect would be disastrous to some of our ranches.

III RESPONSIBILITY ISSUES

I suggest that it is the responsibility of each generation to recognize that it does not have the last word in understanding "mother Nature". Accordingly, it is incumbent on us to avoid committing all our natural resources in one generation. In the interest of fairness and of safety, we are obligated to preserve part of our heritage intact for the decision process of our descendents. Carthage did not do this and disappeared!

IV INTENT OF CONGRESS

The Hells Canyon N.R.A. has not been managed with recreation as a foremost value, as mandated in the act. It is necessary to give clear direction to the Forest Service, if they are to continue to manage it, that their prime responsibility is not the production of timber but the promotion of recreational values. Capping the timber cutting and adding to the wilderness designations will help in this direction.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments.

Sincerely,

Tony Sowers

Anthony E. Sowers

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you. Now if we could move onto panel No. 27. Terry Holbrook, Jim Walker, Genene Kingsford, Steve Fuhriman, Jim Henderson, Steven Colkitt.

STATEMENT OF STEVEN R. FUHRIMAN

Mr. **Fuhriman**. My name is Steve Fuhriman. I am from Joseph, OR.

The common fallacy put forth by those promoting additional wilderness in Hells Canyon is that we in this area do not need this timber. They say that the timber from the NRA is not milled or processed in Wallowa County.

This is a gross misconception that is easily refuted by Forest Service information.

In the period between 1975 and 1985 there were 39 sales in the NRA. Sixty-one million board feet of timber was sold. All but five sales were sold and the timber processed in Wallowa County by local mills supporting local economies. The total board footage sold and processed by other mills including those in Union County was 7.32 million, or in percentages, 89 percent was milled in Wallowa County and 11 percent milled elsewhere.

The historical cut on the ground that is now the NRA was 17 million board feet. Since the NRA was implemented it has been reduced to seven million.

Senator Hatfield suggested in his evaluation that it should be closer to nine million.

Another letter to Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Crowell from Senator Hatfield states that if the economies of the counties affected by the NRA would be hurt by factors that influence the timber economies, such as reduced cuts suggested by Forest Service Plan C, that the harvest level should be increased in the NRA to offset the effect.

If 300,000 more acres are put into wilderness, the future of Wallowa County is in jeopardy. I propose to increase the cut on the NRA.

Another argument presented by supporters of the wilderness bill states that the forests are for everyone, not just industry or the people that depend on the resources provided by an area.

This is true.

My stand is that there are many more people throughout the nation that get more use from the products that come from the forest than get use from wilderness.

We have plenty of wilderness, not only in Wallowa County, Oregon, but throughout the Northwest.

The people that depend on the National Forest for their livelihood work hard and pay taxes and support our government.

It's time the government worked to help us keep our economy stable, instead of tearing it down.

Thank you.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JAMES E. HENDERSON

Mr. HENDERSON. My name is James E. Henderson. I live at Wallowa, Oregon. We are deeply involved in the economy of Wallowa County.

The disaster fires of the past week have definitely proved that we need to harvest the timber stands in an orderly fashion before fire or disease destroys them.

I just came from the Pumpkin Creek fire last night. It is still burning out of control. It has consumed over 12,000 acres of grass and timber. Fire fighting has been severely hampered by poor or non-existing roads. Over-ripe and dying timber have added to the problem.

We wish to commend you on your proposal to improve the roads to Dug Bar and Hat Point on the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

Timber sales would help finance these proposed roads.

We and the people working with us cannot support or condone any additional wilderness.

I might add this, that contrary to what you have been hearing here today, the U.S. Forest Service is doing an excellent job in managing our National Forest timber lands.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JIM WALKER

Mr. WALKER. My name is Jim Walker. I am from Enterprise, Oregon.

Having spent the past 14 years in the outfitting business in Hells Canyon with nearly 150 raft trips through the canyon, 14,000 or 15,000 jet boat miles on the Snake River and hundreds of miles on horseback and on foot from Saddle Creek to Deep Creek, I would like to comment on the recreation opportunities in the Packwood addition.

While wilderness type uses coupled with wilderness type recreation opportunities have necessarily preceded the actual designation of an area as wilderness, the Packwood addition lacks both.

You can see from the map that the boundary lines have been gerrymandered to try and exclude places that would disqualify it from wilderness, that it's impossible. The area is based as an economic unit.

Simply put, the vast majority of the area does not legally qualify as wilderness as defined in the Wilderness Act. We can just go right back to the law and see it.

The areas in question have been used for logging, grazzing and hunting. Conventional wilderness recreational uses have been almost entirely absent due to the nature of the terrain. Where trails exist, these are grazing access trails. They do not lead to lakes, to streams or recreation spots. Access to the Snake River is very limited or non-existent.

People will continue to recreate along the banks of the Snake River where access is by jet boat or raft and they will ride or hike the trails from Saddle Creek to Dug Bar where they always have.

Senator Packwood can identify no wilderness recreation use in his addition because it does not exist and never will.

Instead he seems to be engaging in logger and rancher bashing. Everyone seems to have been able to see that there is no more wilderness to be had here except Senator Packwood and his elitist environmental cronies.

Come on into the real world, Senator Packwood.

We can only guess where this bill and the boundaries have come from. Obviously, not from Packwood, as his knowledge of the area is apparently non-existent. Those who spoon-fed the authors of this bill are equally ignorant, coupled with a hatred for the real producers of food and fibers.

Senator Packwood's utter distain for the local economy is only exceeded by his arrogance in trying to single handedly create his own "wilderness" where none exists.

We hope Packwood recovers from Potomac Fever long enough to do something constructive instead of destructive to Eastern Oregon.

STATEMENT OF STEVE COLKITT

Mr. COLKITT. Senator Packwood, my name is Steve Colkitt.

I'm just a working Oregonian and apparently I missed out on the boat because I am not being paid today to come here and speak to you, like it was indicated that many others are, and I know that they are not either.

My main concern is that apparently a lot of people don't understand the danger of going from a manufacturing based economy to a service based economy which supporters of this bill feel will save Eastern Oregon.

The proposed bill will take away firm long term year around jobs which they feel will be replaced with low paying and very, very seasonal jobs.

We aren't going to see these people here in the wintertime, Eastern Oregon. They are not going to come over here by the horse. There will be a few, and they go back into the woods maybe on snow shoes or whatever have you. But there aren't going to be very many.

It is just going to be seasonal, low paying jobs and that's about all.

I did not build my house out of lodgepole nor did my neighbors with their own hands.

I paid for it, and that's part of what supports the diversified economy.

The economy of the United States just keeps going more and more towards service industry after service industry.

What we need to do is do something about helping manufacturing and the manufacturing industry.

Right now there is no economics for another manufacturing source to come into Eastern Oregon. We are basically timber and farming. Farming is hurting. Timber hasn't been good due to the high interest rates in the past. Neither one of them. The timber industry is just starting to turn around. Interest rates have gone down some and things are helping ut a little bit.

But there isn't anybody else looking to come in here and there isn't anybody else helping us.

It is with this that I ask that you kill this bill and replace it with one that brings some permanent year around manufacturing jobs.

It is interesting that the groups who support this bill continually talk about trout, salmon, deer and elk.

Whereas myself and others also talk about it, but we place a heavier emphasis on the people and a stronger emphasis on manufacturing econmy or a service economy.

Senator PACKWOOD. We will take the next panel and then we will take a break.

Janneli Vojta, Terry Trudel, Mary Fleser, Ellen Arietta, Jon Barker, and Andy Bortz. Okay. Let's go ahead.

STATEMENT OF MARY FLESER

Ms. FLESER. Hi. My name is Mary Fleser.

I wish to testify on behalf of my two sons, ages six and ten. The Fleser family has lived in the canyons of Wallowa County for the past five generations. There is a noble and colorful family history of professional lumberjacks.

In the old days the big trees floated down the rivers to the mills. They had the pick of the forest.

If they weren't working in the woods, then they were hunting, fishing and enjoying the bounty of an endless wilderness country.

Now we are reaping the seeds sown by our forefathers. Or more precisely, we are unable to reap old growth timber because they did not replant after their initial harvest.

We are reaping second, third, fourth and fifth cutting of timber and desparately trying to get hard to reach old trees.

I am testifying so that my children may have a choice of profession that many of us here today are so worried about.

It's true, we will no longer need loggers when the trees are so puny and miserable that farm can harvest them.

We don't enjoy the same rights to use the wilderness as our great grandfathers.

But there is time to stop becoming less equal, to stop losing the quality of our life. Draw the line now so that my sons and yours may know the same opportunities that all of us here today take so much for granted.

How sad if in 10 or 20 years they chose the profession of their family heritage, only to be told, sorry, boys, no more lumberjacks, they died off with the last of the big trees.

I, too, experience the hardships, like all the woodworking families now. The boom and bust cycle of the big timber companies has come home to rest.

But there needs a steady vision to see the havoc that will be brought on the next generation if we in our immediate short term profit destroy what might have lasted forever otherwise.

If our families may not harvest at continued high levels because of the shortage of timber that can be wisely cut, then the best immediate solution is to have us work, thinning, replanting, taking care so that my grandchildren with the grace of God may find trees in these same old logged over forests.

Hells Canyon is not meant to be a logged forest. We have logged there already. Even when we try to replant we can do our best, still the shallow soil, the steep fragile canyon will not support regrowth.

The elk, the bear, fish and birds may live there. But only if we humans promise to be careful.

I demand equal rights for my children. I will not have their heritage sold out from under them for a measley short run corporate dollar today.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF TERRY TRUDEL

Mr. TRUDEL. My name is Terry Trudel. I am a physician engaged in the practice of psychiatry in La Grande, Oregon. I want to extend my thanks to the U.S. Senate for giving all of us an opportunity to input into this important decision.

Timber and lumber are synonymous with the history of the Northwest. I do not want to see these terms disappear from our future history.

On the other hand, wilderness was the Northwest long before the arrival of the lumber companies.

It is curious that lumber production and wilderness now find themselves on opposite sides of the debate, since these companies owe their very existence to Oregon's once vast wilderness.

As a practicing psychiatrist who last lived in the Northwest for 13 years, I would like to offer some very brief testimony on some of the psychological aspects of this controversy.

The lumber companies have successfully created an atmosphere of anxiety and despair among their own employees as well as within the communities at large.

They have accomplished this by threatening closure if they do not get exactly what they want in either wage negotiations with their employees or high timber quotas from the U.S. Forest Service.

These threats of closure occur at a time of economic depression, leaving employees and communities frightened, confused and angry.

The most surprising aspect of this debate is that the lumber companies have successfully covered up the real issue which for them is not how many years it will take to grow a tree but rather at what rate they will be allowed to grow dollars.

This re-labeling of money production to lumber production and timber quotas has generally resulted in the lumber company seeming to be the good guy and the wilderness advocates the bad.

In fact neither is intrinsically bad, despite their diametrically opposed views.

The lesson to be learned here is that the lumber company should not play a significant role in determining timber quotas. It is simply a case of hiring the fox to guard the hen house, which we all know is hard on the chicken population.

Every person, every community, every State, every country will at times be faced with difficult and even painful decisions.

Such is the decision to add more wilderness acreage to the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area, because it places pocketbook worries directly against a heritage we will leave our children and grandchildren.

I urge our Oregon delegation to support legislation for this addition.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JANNELI VOJTA

Mrs. VOJTA. Hello. My name is Janneli Vojta.

I am in support of Senate bill 1803. Many people today have mentioned that they have been in this area for many years, even generations. This is not so with me. I moved to the Grande Ronde Valley in 1980.

One of the reasons I chose Northeast Oregon to raise my family was specifically because of the accessibility to the wilderness area and national forest. These local wilderness areas are an essential source of recreation for my family.

My husband and two children and I have spent many hours hiking the canyons and bench lands of the Snake River country. And we are richer for it. This wealth cannot be measured in dollar amounts but instead in the sight of a bald eagle circling, the sound of an elk whistling, or even the name of a newly discovered flower.

I also work in the forest. I have planted hundreds of trees in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. The soils are shallow and rocky. The climate is hot and dry. Survival rates for these newly planted trees run much lower than those in other wetter climates, such as west of the Cascades.

This is tough country. These forests do not regenerate easily.

I whole heartedly support the logging limitations and clear-cutting prohibition on a NRA precisely because of my local experience in reforestation.

In closing, I would like to address the issue that disturbs me the most. And this is the short sided vision of those who oppose this legislation, who would log the remaining forest and exploit the wilderness. The tendency to promote short term economic gain in exchange for future sustainability of whole habitats, plant, wildlife, animal and human, is unwise.

The log trucks parading through town today are exactly the point. When there are no more trees to cut down, then where is the economic security?

I have children and I believe in the future. I'm willing to tighten my belt now so that my kids and theirs will be able to see bald eagles and to learn the meaning of these names, Doug fir, western larch, ponderosa pine.

A wealth of the spirit has far more value to the future of human kind than a few more dollars in our pockets today.

Thank you.

[A subsequent letter follows:]

✓

August 24, 1986

Senator Hatfield:

I am writing concerning Senate Bill 1803. I would like these comments to be added to the testimony I submitted at the Field Hearings in LaGrande on August 19.

During the oral testimony, several people referred to the recent forest fires in Northeast Oregon as a good example of what happens to unmanaged forests. I would like to point out to you that the majority of acres burned, were not in the wilderness areas, but instead in the managed forests administered by the Forest Service. If you compare the acreages, you will find that the fires do not only burn in wilderness areas- but instead, destroy more timber in areas which have been logged, and which have salvage and slash in large amounts, littering the forest floor.

The second point I would like to bring up, also stems from the oral testimonies I heard. Many times it was mentioned that wilderness locks up the country, letting it be accessible to only an elite few, while multiple use is better for everyone concerned. I do not agree at all. I am a local Northeastern Oregon resident. I, and my family, are avid naturalists. We hike, fish, camp, birdwatch, gather wood, plant trees, and back-pack in the Wallowa Whitman National Forest. I must tell you honestly, that I do not at all enjoy sharing my camp with cows. I do not enjoy camping, hiking, birding, fishing, in any logged areas. The so called 'multiple use' areas of the forest are extremely unpleasant for recreational use, I don not believe that commercial gain, the commercial gain of a few large companies, and local ranchers and loggers, is the best use of our public lands. Wilderness is the only classification which allows me to enjoy the public lands. And I am not an elitist. I believe strongly that we need to save what wilderness we have. I urge you to reconsider your views on this issue.

Thank you

Janneli Vojta

Janneli Vojta
Rt 1 Box 96
Cove OR 97824

Senator Packwood. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ANDY BORTZ

Mr. Bortz. Senator Packwood, my name is Andy Bortz.

I worked for three years on the old growth issue, and I am a dyed in the wool Oregonian.

I truly believe in a future in which everyone of us is basically happy with their life and livelihood. This is a real possibility if and only if we cease this short term meddling.

For example, the Forest Service whines, please let us cut more now, and then we will cut less later.

This thinking does not indicate jobs for tomorrow to me.

For example, the timber industry, including the workers and their unions, allows itself to be controlled by arbitrary profit, percentage cutoff points.

These arbitrary points are determined by owners and boards of directors who don't give a tinker's dam about your future, but care plenty about investing out of the State and out of the country.

Oregonians in all parts of the State are caught in the same trap of short term thinking. Which means long term job loss and welfare State expansion.

Neither I nor any of you I believe want to wind up on those welfare roll sheets. Remember Valsetz, remember Southwest Oregon, industry waste and ruin policies create welfare families.

Many of the people in those areas are still unemployed.

This unemployment is absolutely not a product of wilderness preservation. It is a product of corporate greed and short term thinking.

There is plenty of work to be done in this State and will assure a future of prosperity and dignity for all Oregonians and a healthy environment always for Oregon's non-human life.

Jobs are now being lost in truck load quantities, and this is due almost exclusively to Canadian competition and to mill automation.

By all means, gentlemen and women of the timber industry, organize, organize for all you're worth, but organize for a future that ensures jobs in fields other than timber as well. Let's organize together to develop new jobs in forestry management, reforestation, new jobs in rebuilding the fish runs in this State and, lastly, not firstly, new jobs in tourism, that includes a substantial income from the game hunting industry.

Let's have more job retraining towards second growth economy. Let's dump this pathetic fatalism which says when the timber is all cut, well, that's just the way it goes and we will cross that bridge when we come to it.

If we get serious about planning new jobs for the future now, then we can have both the preservation of the Hells Canyon and a healthy future economy for our children

Senator Packwood. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ELLEN ARIETTA

Ms. Arietta. Senator, my name is Ellen Arietta.

I am from Eugene. And I feel like a real minority here. I'm not representing any particular organization or business. I'm not from Northeastern Oregon. And my testimony is very brief.

Hells Canyon is a National Recreation Area. The emphasis being on recreation. Myself and hundreds of other Oregonians come from the west side to Hells Canyon for the unique and diverse recreational opportunities it has to offer.

Sunday morning I flew over the Hells Canyon NRA and was appalled at what I saw.

There is clear-cutting activity happening in the National Recreation Area.

It was explained to me that this was not a clear-cut per se but salvage sales for harvested blown down timber.

I don't know if this is a Northeastern Oregon phenomenon, that 30 or 40 acres can blow down in a square and this is called harvesting salvage timber.

To me it looked like a clear cut.

Recreation seems to have taken the back seat to tree farming in Hells Canyon.

I strongly support Senate Bill 1803.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE VENN

Mr. **Venn**. My name is George Venn.

I have appeared before you I think on five other occasions regarding this canyon and its preservation.

I am a writer. I teach writing and literature. I have lived in Union County for 16 years. I was born and raised in the family of loggers. I worked myself through college, setting chokers, felling and bucking, second loading and driving truck.

I have lived all of my life in mill towns, some thriving, some holding on, and some abandoned. I know the site of the tepee burner, dying into rust, the blocks of empty houses abandoned when mill burned or shut down, the sweat on the green chain in the summer afternoon, the hard lives of men and women and children in the small northwest towns.

Those people who taught me how to live on the land that way, I also learned to admire the world. To be still, to seek its silence and to leave life alone and to observe what is wild and beautiful and come away.

But like most of us who are honest, I learned to recognize that there are two names for what we saw and what we loved and for what sustained us. Timber when we cut it and yarded it and sold it to the mills, and trees, when we left them alone.

I have chosen to support Senate Bill 1803 because timber has blinded us to the trees.

All day in this hearing, Senators, I have listened to you, admiring your patience, while the cry goes up again and again that wilderness will eliminate jobs, that it will reduce timber supplies, that mills might close, that local economies will suffer.

This reasoning is not new, and it is not supported by the facts as I know them. None of the mills that closed in the towns we lived in closed because of a lack of timber. They closed because better profits could be made elsewhere, because of poor management, because of obsolete equipment and modernization.

Anyone who could read the local paper can confirm the hue and cry about lost jobs caused by wilderness is simply too easy. On page 7, last night's Observer, "Lumber Productivity Rose in 1985," had this to say, and this is from the Western Wood Products Association, "Fewer workers produced more lumber in 1985 than the previous year as mills in the 12 State Western Wood Region had their best output since 1979 an industry group reported. The Western Wood Products Association said employment in the industry declined 2.6 percent last year when approximately 203,000 people were working. But production in 1985 was listed as 19.07 billion board feet, up from 18.99 billion board feet in 1984, and compared to 20.03 billion feet in 1979."

The article continues to state that Oregon was the top lumber producing State in the west in 1985 with Oregon's mills producing 7.21 billion feet, but that "there were nearly 3,000 fewer jobs in Oregon last year than in 1984 at 63,631."

What this shows, at least, is that more jobs are being eliminated in the wood products industry itself than have ever been eliminated or probably ever will be eliminated by wilderness.

The local wage cuts by Boise Cascade will probably eliminate about as much available income locally as the Hells Canyon Bill.

Why don't we hear truck drivers organizing and school boards organizing and loggers organizing to protest the loss of jobs created by the industry itself, while production is at the highest its ever been?

Why, my friends, do we point to the wilderness and people who support it and the Congressmen who have the courage and foresight to propose it as law, why do we call wilderness and its advocates the source of danger, and thus the greater danger, the greater source of lost jobs goes on untouched and unexamined?

Senator PACKWOOD. Let me explain the rules that Senator Hatfield explained this morning, bearing in mind that I am not a Member of this Committee.

This Committee does not allow substitute speakers to come represent themselves as speaking for someone else. For example, if Johnny Jones is scheduled to testify, Sussie Smith can't say she is speaking for Johnny Jones.

If she happens to have Johnny Jones' statement, she can come and give it for him. Senator Hatfield has discovered on occasions Sussie Smith has stated she is representing Johnny Jones, but that the statement is not Mr. Jones' position at all.

So if you have a statement for somebody that was scheduled to testify, you may read their statement and that is all right.

Secondly, if you would listen to your names very closely so that we get everyone on. I think a number of you already have a witness list and it is posted outside.

We are continuing with Panel 29, moving right through until we finish.

Now we start with Lori White, Mike Miller, Mike Wiedeman, Wayne Eades, Dalls Armon and Barbara Kriley.

Go right ahead and start.

STATEMENT OF LOREN W. WHITE, SNAKE RIVER DISTRICT, LOG SCALING SOCIETY

Mr. WHITE. My name is Loren W. White.

I represent the Snake River District of the Log Scaling Society, an organization of log scalers of Eastern Oregon and Idaho south of the Salmon River.

If I were not representing this group I would have requested to speak on my own behalf as a fourth generation Northeast Oregonian. Since we recognize that many statistics regarding this subject will be presented by others, we have chosen to direct our comments towards the humanistic considerations that will be impacted by Senator Packwood's Hells Canyon Wilderness bill.

Just as many of our ancestors chose this area as the spot in which they wanted to live and raise their families, we the present East Oregonians value our land and life style here. Some of us may be forced to leave for educational or economic reasons, but an overwhelming number of us choose to remain in this area if possible.

We love this land of ours, and we wish to be good stewards of it for future generations.

We believe that the present 719,000 acres of wilderness in the Northeast Oregon is certainly sufficient for this area. We further believe that there are presently laws which, if diligently enforced, would adequately protect the lands that are under multiple use.

It's been said that history repeats itself and right now as a native of this area, I feel great kinship with Chief Joseph and his Nez Perce Indians. I see many parallels between our situation today and that which faced those natives of the area in 1855–1877. The conflict was over many of the very same acres, before the term land use had been coined.

Like Joseph and his father, we come to meetings to try to reason. We also grow increasingly alarmed that we are not being heard by part of our national representation.

As Joseph, we grow leery of the shifting views and proposals of those in power.

For instance, when Senator Hatfield was creating the 1984 Wilderness Bill, Senator Packwood voiced no dissenting opinions. We were led to believe that the bill would settle the wilderness issue for the next decade.

Now, just two years later, Senator Packwood introduces Senate Bill 1803, which adds nearly half again as much wilderness and treats most of the Hells Canyon as a defacto wilderness.

It is estimated that Senate Bill 1803 will reduce annual timber harvest to the point that evaporation of the local economic base is inevitable. Nationally, it will add to the economic hemmoraging with loss of basic industry and further imbalance of trade.

As Joseph's people had a sickening of the heart and soul when forced from their beloved land of winding waters, so I have a sickening of the heart when I see the strangulation of small Northeast Oregon counties, towns and school systems.

It is my hope that we can leave our youth the choice of remaining in the land of their heritage rather than forcing them out because of lack of employment opportunity.

Why continue to add to the vast acreage of wilderness, there are already seven wilderness areas within a two hours' drive of this very area, much of which is seldom visited?

Thank you, Senator.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF BARBARA KRILEY

Ms. **Kriley**. I am Barbara Kriley from Imnaha.

I wish to discuss two of the many reasons why we, my family, the Imnaha Grange, the Oregon State Grange and the National Grange oppose this wilderness bill. Now I am talking about the Imnaha drainage.

Hells Canyon, unless I am blind, is already wilderness and already protected.

First, this bill discriminates against many different segments of our country's citizens. It would put vast areas out of reach of the old, the weak and the poor. Only people young and strong enough to backpack or those wealthy enough to hire a pack string, or own their own horses, can get into the wilderness.

The closing of many back or side roads to motor vehicle travel will greatly reduce the use of the recreation area.

The bill discriminates against the cattle rancher. Even though grazing is protected, the ability to man cow camps, repair fence with vehicles or cut fire wood with chain saws will be gone.

The source of most irrigation sprinkling systems for Imnaha ranchers will be inaccessible by vehicles. The amount of grazing available for cattle or game animals is reduced when mature trees are not harvested and become piles of dead fall.

Senator Packwood has admitted to the Imnaha Grange that the language of the bill will have to be altered to protect the rancher. We would rather be protected by the dropping of the bill.

Again, the bill discriminates against the taxpayer. Example. If the Hells Canyon NRA management had insisted on selling the salvage on the 1981 Lord Flat timber blowdown, the loggers would have built a good road to Hat Point. Now the taxpayer puts up $101,000, for which we are grateful, to study the situation, and who knows how many dollars to build it? And our God given renewal resource lies rotting on the ground.

We realize that in this country a few are required to sacrifice for the many. That is, property is condemned for new roads and so forth.

But do the many use the wilderness? Forest Service figures show in 1977 65,400 recreational visitor days were recorded for the HCNRA wilderness. By 1984 that had dropped to 12,670 recreation visitor days. Our present 130,000 acres of wilderness gives each visitor over 10 acres if they were all there at the same day.

Do we need more wilderness?

Second, do these areas really meet wilderness criteria? The high voltage power lines from the Snake River power dams to north Idaho cross them. By necessity, the lines are excluded from the proposed wilderness in narrow corridors, but still plainly visible from the surrounding areas.

Is it really possible to make wilderness out of an area crossed by high voltage power lines, a network of roads and fences and dotted with hundreds of stock watering tanks, many of them metal?

The Imnaha drainage ceased to meet wilderness criteria years ago, when it ceased to be a roadless area. We believe that enough acres have been set aside as wilderness.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF MIKE MILLER, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, ASSOCIATED OREGON LOGGERS, INC.

Mr. MILLER. For the record, my name is Mike Miller.

I'm Executive Vice-President for Associated Oregon Loggers. Our organization represents over 900 logging contractors and those that work with logging activities. Here in Northeast Oregon we have approximately 60 independent contractors who would be adversely impacted by this proposal.

Loggers and those in the industry and the businesses who depend on the number one industry of the State have lived for the last 15 to 16 years with uncertainty while we decided the wilderness issue with RARE I and RARE II.

As was pointed out earlier, when the Wilderness Bill of 1984 was passed, we were led to believe that the issue was decided for the forseeable future.

I think it can be said that to some extent we feel somewhat betrayed by this proposal.

Having spent many years in government I know that some things are difficult to decide.

The key question in this seems to be how much wilderness is enough. The State of Oregon already has over 2.2 million acres.

Another question is how much is needed and what do we base that need on? 35 percent of the Hells Canyon NRA is already in wilderness or has been designated for scenic purposes, which limits management. Over 24 percent of the Wallowa Whitman National Forest as a total is already in wilderness.

Some will say that we need to protect elk habitat. That seems to disregard the almost direct relationship between the increases in elk population in this part of the State with harvesting over the last 30 years.

What about the relationship between supply and demand for recrational need?

As has been pointed out several times, right now the dispersed recreation supply already exceed demand by some seven times.

When using Forest Service figures and looking into the year 2021 and looking at anticipated demand, even in the year 2021 the demand will be exceeded by supply some four times for dispersed and developed recreation.

Again, what is the need for this addition?

On the other hand, timber demands are high and it is projected to remain so.

Others have covered the timber output figures, but there is little question that timber demand will remain in the country as projected by the Forest Service and others.

Some ten years ago Oregon State University made a projection looking at the entire State of Oregon and said that in this particular timber shed, that we could have an adequate timber supply to meet our historic levels, but only without losses to wilderness, to insect disease and fire, and unfortunately this area of the State has suffered all three of those, and timber supply will definitely be a problem.

I urge that Senate Bill 1803 be withdrawn.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Miller follows:]

ASSOCIATED OREGON LOGGERS, INC.
AUTUMN HOUSE
1077 GATEWAY LOOP - P.O. BOX 846
SPRINGFIELD, OREGON 97477
(503) 746-4311

TESTIMONY OF

ASSOCIATED OREGON LOGGERS

FOR THE

HELLS CANYON WILDERNESS HEARING

SB 1803

AUGUST 19, 1986

FOR THE RECORD, MY NAME IS H. "MIKE" MILLER. I AM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ASSOCIATED OREGON LOGGERS. THE ASSOCIATION REPRESENTS INDEPENDENT LOGGERS THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF OREGON. IN NORTHEASTERN OREGON WE HAVE OVER 60 INDEPENDENT LOGGING COMPANIES THAT WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE DECISION TO DESIGNATE AN ADDITIONAL 300,000 ACRES OF WILDERNESS IN THE HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATIONAL AREA (HEREIN REFERRED TO AS HELLS CANYON NRA) AND WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST.

LOCAL LOGGERS ARE CONCERNED FOR THEIR FUTURE AND LIVELIHOOD AS RESIDENTS OF THIS BEAUTIFUL AREA. WHY? WELL IT SEEMS LIKE ONLY YESTERDAY THAT CONGRESS PASSED LEGISLATION PLACING RECREATIONAL VALUES AND USE OVER AND ABOVE MULTIPLE USE OJECTIVES ON 22% OF THE WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST WHEN THE HELLS CANYON NRA WAS ENACTED IN 1975.

WHILE THE HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA ACT DOES NOT PRECLUDE TRADITIONAL, HISTORIC USES SUCH AS GRAZING, MINING AND TIMBER HARVESTING, IT HAS SEVERLY LIMTIED THE ABILITY OF THE FOREST SERVICE TO PRACTICE SOUND FOREST MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES TO MAINTAIN HEALTHY FOREST CONDITIONS.

OVER 650,000 ACRES OF THE WALLOWA-WHITMAN HAVE BEEN DEDICATED FOR RECREATIONAL USE OBJECTIVES WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HELLS CANYON NRA. IN ADDITION, WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE 1984 OREGON WILDERNESS ACT MORE ACRES WERE SETASIDE ON THE FOREST. IN FACT, 35% OF THE HELLS CANYON NRA IS FEDERALLY WITHDRAWN AS WILDERNESS OR SCENIC. MOREOVER, WILDERNESS ACREAGE INSIDE HELLS CANYON NRA INCREASED 11%. OVER 24 % OF THE ENTIRE FOREST IS FEDERALLY WITHDRAWN AS WILDERNESS.

LOGGERS THOUGHT THAT THE WILDENESS ISSUE WAS DECIDED WHEN CONGRESS AND THE OREGON WILDERNESS ACT OF 1984 GAVE EVERYONE CLEAR DIRECTION IN ITS RELEASE LANGUAGE THERE WOULD BE NO MORE WILDERNESS. HOW SHOCKING AND DISAPPOINTING TO BE BACK AT THE BEGINNING. WE FEEL BETRAYED.

WITHDRAWING AN ADDITIONAL 300,000 ACRES AND DESIGNATING THOSE LANDS FOR WILDERNESS IS NOT JUSTIFIABLE.

1. THE HELLS CANYON NRA ACT WAS SPECIFICALLY AMENDED TO PERMIT TRADITONAL USE AND HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES SUCH AS TIMBER HARVESTING, GRAZING, AND MINING. DESIGNATING MORE WILDERNESS AND CAPPING TIMBER HARVESTS IN THE NRA VIOLATES ORIGINAL LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

Throughout the history of establishing the Hells Canyon NRA resource conflicts have arisen because the land allocated for the NRA supported economic benefits for many people in Northeastern Oregon.

Yet, people recognized the unique scenic and recreational values associated with the NRA and the need to provide for those ammenities.

As the Hells Canyon NRA act took shape and form, those unique values of the land placed a large emphasis on maintaining the recreational values and opportunities. Yet, in the same breath Congress also recognized the need to maintain the traditional historical uses within the Hells Canyon NRA. Specifically stated in P.L. 94-199, Sec. 7

> "Except as otherwise provided in sections 2 and 3 of this Act, and subject to the provisions of section 10 of this Act, the Secretary shall administer the recreation area in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations applicable to the national forests for public outdoor recreation in a manner compatible with the following objectives...
>
> (7) such management, utilization and disposal of natural resources on federally owned lands, including, but not limited to timber harvesting by selective cutting, mining and grazing and continuation of such existing uses and developments as are compatible with the provisions of this Act."

Thus, creating additional wilderness and placing a 1.0 MMBF cap on timber harvesting in the Hells Canyon NRA would adversely impact the local economy and violates the original legislative intent to continue to provide traditional,historical uses within the NRA.

2. ANTICIPATED DEMAND FOR RECREATION AND CURRENT RECREATION USES DO NOT JUSTIFY ALLOCATING MORE WILDERNESS ACREAGE FOR HELLS CANYON NRA OR WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST.

The Wallowa-Whitman's draft forest plan did not re-evaluate the Hells Canyon NRA's comprehensive management plan. Thus, the forest plan's discussion of anticipated demand for recreation and projected supply are exclusive of the Hells Canyon NRA.

The current supply of recreational opportunities on the forest far exceeds the demand and use for dispersed and developed recreation.

In table III (p. III-75, Wallowa-Whitman DESI) the projected supply for dispersed recreation is 7,104,000 Recreation Visitor Days (RVD's) and 587,000 RVD's for developed recreation totaling 7,691,000 RVD's for the forest.

Yet, anticipated demand for dispersed recreation is only 1,337,000 RVD's and 399,000 RVD's for developed recreation totaling 1,736,000 RVD's for the forest. Supply for recreational opportunities is SEVEN times greater than demand.

In fact, current recreational use during the period from 1980 to 1984 averaged 1,511,000 RVD's/year (p. III-55, Wallowa-Whitman DEIS). Supply for recreational use is seven times greater than actual use.

Will forestry activies on the forest reduce those recreational opportunities in the future so much that supply will not meet the demand? Once again table III-13 illustrates that in the year 2021 projected supply for all recreational opportunites (developed and dispersed) is 8,276,000 RVD's and anticipated demand is 2,668,000 RVD's. Thus, forest management does not significantly impact future recreational activies and in some instances enhances recreational opportunties.

Furthermore, the Hells Canyon NRA final EIS stated that there would not be any dramatic increases to recreational use (pg 92 Hells Canyon NRA FEIS and Comprehensive Plan)

> "Relatively few people have made their way into Hells Canyon in the past and current use of the recreation area is light considering its size... Access to the area is not easy and it is situated four driving hours from Boise, Idaho, the nearest metropolitan center. It is not anticipated in the near future that Hells Canyon will attract the volume of recreationists the Yellowstone and Grand Canyon National Parks or the Sawtooth NRA now absorb."

Recreation Visitor Day use has not dramatically increased and future projections do not expect major increases in demand for such recreational opportunities. The forest has an abundance of supply and forest management will not significantly impact future recreational experiences. Thus, creating additional wilderness is not justified.

3. THE FOREST SERVICE IS CARRYING OUT THE COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN IT DEVELOPED THROUGH PUBLIC INPUT AND IS MANAGING THE NRA IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ACT.

The Oregon side of the NRA contains about 130,000 acres of commercial forest land which provided an annual harvvest of 17.8 MMBF annually between 1960 and 1970. After designation, the timber harvest dropped to about 6.3 million board feet.

The NRA has a biological potential yield of nearly 30.0 million board feet annually, but the Forest Service is planning to harvest only 23% of this potential yield each year.

The traditional forest uses including timber harvesting within the NRA provides the Forest Service the opportunity to maintain a healthy forest ecosystem. The NRA's comprehensive management plan permits harvesting on only 77,000 acres of the 652,000 acre NRA.

Salvaging timber in the NRA not only provides for healthy forest conditions by keeping insect, disease and fires hazards at a minimum, but it also provides an economic livelihood to those loggers in communities that have traditionally relied upon those forest resources.

CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY

Currently, the Forest Service projects 7.0 million board feet of timber harvest annually within the Hells Canyon NRA. If the Hells Canyon Wilderness bill passes, it would put a 1 million board foot cap on timber harvesting annually. This would reduce timber harvesting by 6.0 million board feet. If all of the 1 million board feet was harvested as firewood, then the reduction would be 7.0 million board feet.

Adding Wilderness outside the Hells Canyon NRA will reduce the annual harvest level another 2.0 million board feet.

Thus, the cumulative impact would reduce the annual timber harvest on the forest.

Local loggers believe this reduction of annual timber harvesting to be an unfair burden placed upon Northeastern communities adversely affecting local businesses'and famlies' quality of life and economy.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF WAYNE W. EADES, PRESIDENT, EASTERN OREGON MINING ASSOCIATION, INC.

Mr. EADES. My name is Wayne Eades. I am President of the Eastern Oregon Mining Association.

Eastern Oregon Mining Association supports the wilderness concepts as put forth in the 1964 Wilderness Act. It believes that those lands that are truly unique should be protected.

We do not support the locking up of land just for the sake of locking up more land.

The area in question here today does not have any unique characteristics which are not already well represented in wilderness areas nearby. What the proposed area does have are roads, cabins, mining claims and other signs of man which make it unsuitable for designation as a Wilderness Area.

The area has a high mineral potential, minerals industry. The cottage level minerals industry is of economic importance to the Eastern Oregon Region, providing employment to large numbers of people in the area.

Because the jobs provided are distributed in many small operations, they are not greatly affected by the ups and downs of the general mining industry. Thus, they create economic stability.

Recent past experience with the creation of the North Fork John Day and Greenhorne Wilderness Areas has shown that efforts are made to exclude the claims of large mining companies from designation while the claims of individuals are left to fend for themselves. Of 800 claims lie in those areas, to date only 12 have survived validity processes with a few still pending.

As one can easily see, this amounts to the near total devastation of the cottage level minerals industry in these wilderness areas.

In the 1984 Wilderness Act the words are inserted, subject to valid existing rights, as a protection for mining claims.

Unfortunately, however, the Act failed to define the meaning of a valid right, thus leaving the definition to the Forest Service.

The definition of the Forest Service became and is a discovery of mineral sufficient to receive a mineral patent and that no rights exist before that point. It would be a very rare case when the locator of a mining claim has a patentable deposit showing on the date of location.

In reality, it takes considerable time and money spent on the claim to reach patent quality even on the best mining claims. It is imperative to the health of the mineral industry that the rights of mining claimants be protected from the time a bona fide location is made until the time development work established a patentable mineral deposit.

It is also necessary to realize that as a function of scale some small operators at the cottage level of the mining industry are able to make a profit on deposits which are not economic to the larger levels of the industry.

With these thoughts in mind, we would urge the new wilderness not be created and request that should Congress see fit to create a new wilderness, that the Act incorporate a proper definition of valid existing right.

The Eastern Oregon Mining Association would suggest that to be a bona fide unperfected claim, i.e., a claim which is properly located, has its paper work in order and can show a physical exposure of the mineral claimed.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF DALLAS ARMON

Mr. **Armon**. Senator Packwood, my name is Dallas Armon.

Most of everything that I had in my presentation has pretty much been covered a dozen times. But if I thought maybe saying it enough would maybe change your mind, I would go ahead and do that.

But currently we have approximately three-quarters of a million acres of wilderness in Eastern Oregon and I personally feel it's enough.

Logging cutbacks on the existing Snake River NRA and the creation of a wilderness in my opinion will result in the following: We will have the loss of jobs; it will put undue pressure on our private timber holdings; it will cripple our school budgets; put severe economic pressures on our communities; it will hurt big game habitat through the loss of adequate forage created through logging activities; and it will limit access to a large portion of people that don't have the time, help or means to have traveled in the wilderness.

The National Recreation Area and a wilderness area have two entirely different purposes. The National Recreation Area means just that, an area to be managed for the recreation of a maximum amount of people. A wilderness is for the preservation of a pristine environoment with the emphasis on preservation, not recreation.

The creation of a wilderness in the Snake River NRA will contradict the very purpose for which it was created. Without good health, horses or the money to hire a guide, most of us will be denied access to the wilderness.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Armon follows:]

Senate Hearing on Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill, August 19, 1986

My name is Dallas Armon. I am a timber faller. In my family, as with most families in North East Oregon, logging is a tradition. My grandfather was a logger, my father was a logger, I am a logger, and my son logged to help put himself through college.

We currently have approximately three quarters of a million acres of wilderness in North East Oregon. Do we need more? I think not. Timber is a renewable resource. It is not like coal or oil. It will regenerate itself. Not unlike any other crop, it must be tended, cared for, and harvested. If we don't harvest our timber land, nature will in the form of bug infestation, fire, and blow down. This timber is wasted. With our growing population can we afford to waste a valuable natural resource?

One outlying motive for the creation of wilderness is preservation of big game habitat. Recent studies show this to be false. They found that intensive timber management increases cow-calf ratios in elk by creating more forage. This in turn increases the quality and number of elk the habitat can support. In short, unlogged and old growth timber stands are not desireable big game habitat.

The creation of new wilderness and the cutbacks of U. S. F. S. timber sales has put a great burden on our private timber land. We must manage our national forests to alleviate this problem. Locking up more timber lands is not the answer. We must manage our natiohs forests to its maximum on a sustained yield basis. It can and will work.

We are not out of timber. The Boise Cascade Grossman Compartment has been logged for nearly a hundred years. Four generations of my family have logged there. There is still timber there and there will be when I am gone. This is sound timber management. If private timber can be managed in this manner, so can our national forests.

The 80's is the decade of the environmentalist. It seems that some want to save everything that walks, crawls, grows, or flies. We cannot save timber. It will mature and die.

It makes no more sense than a farmer leaving his crops in the field for next year.

My job is in jeopardy, my community is in jeopardy, and our logging tradition is in jeopardy.

We must stop this nonsense and manage our timber for the good of us all and not lock it away for the enjoyment of a privileged few.

Dallas K. Armon
Rt. 1, Box 1900
La Grande, OR 97850

Senate Hearing on Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill, August 19, 1986.

Dallas K. Armon. Why I feel that more wilderness in the Snake River area is not necessary.

Currently we have approximately three quarters of a million acres of wilderness in North East Oregon. I feel that it is enough. Logging cutbacks on the existing Snake River NRA and the creation of a wilderness will result in the following:

a. The loss of jobs.
b. It will put undue pressure on private timber holdings.
c. It will cripple our school budgets and put severe economic pressure on our communities.
d. It will hurt big game habitat through loss of adequate forage created by logging activities.
e. It will limit access to a large portion of people that don't have the time, health or means of travel in the wilderness.

A national recreation area and a wilderness area have two entirely different purposes.

A national recreation area means just that--an area to be managed for the recreation of a maximum amount of people.

A wilderness is for the preservation of a pristine environment with the emphasis on preservation, not recreation.

The creation of a wilderness in the Snake River NRA will contradict the very purpose for which it was created.

Without good health, horses, or the money to hire a guide, most of us will be denied access to a wilderness.

Dallas
This is on Wallowa Whitman N.F. Thought you might be interested

Appendix C-3

Quality of Elk Herds

One measure of the health of an elk herd is the cow/calf ratio. In the 14 ODFW units on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, the cow/calf ratios range from 30 where public ownership is 85 percent to 53 calves per hundred cows where public ownership is only 57 percent. Taking the three highest public ownership units, namely the Imnaha, Snake River, and Desolation units, we get an average cow/calf ratio of 40. Comparing this with those three units with the highest percentage of private land, namely Catherine Creek, Sled Springs and Ukiah, we get an average cow/calf ratio of 47. The fact that we have seven more calves per hundred cows surviving in those areas which have undergone intensive timber management and harvest should indicate to forest planners that intensive timber management and quality of elk herds are not necessarily mutually exclusive. This further indicates that the application of Management Strategy 3 is not only unnecessary but is probably wasteful of multiple-use resources, particularly hunting opportunities and timber management.

The planners apparently assume the selected habitat (aka preferred) provides evidence that reproduction and survival of elk are maximized there. It is entirely possible, even probable, that fitness in the most suitable habitats may be the same as in less suitable habitats. The reason for this is that although elk densities will be higher in the selected habitat, their net energy and protein balance per individual is likely to be equal to that in a less dense population using a less suitable habitat (e.g., less cover).

This needs to be shown experimentally (which is at least part of the value in the proposed elk study in eastern Oregon), but if true, then a large area of less suitable habitat could easily have as many total elk and high calf/cow ratios as the most optimal, albeit smaller, situation.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SUMMER ELK HERD SIZE IN RELATION TO MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES COW/CALF RATIOS & LAND OWNERSHIP FOR THE 14 UNITS ON WALLOWA-WHITMAN NATIONAL FOREST

	Management Objectives	1980 Nos.	Cow/Calf* Ratio	Percent of Unit Private Land
Minam	2100	2400	34	22
Imnaha	1250	1450	44	10
Catherine Creek	700	700	43	65
Keating	500	900	34	24
Pine Creek	800	1150	30	15
Snake River	3300	3700	37	5
Chesnimus	4000	4750	32	38
Sled Springs	3000	3900	45	75
Mt. Emily	5000	5400	30	41
Starkey	7000	7400	31	28
Ukiah	3500	4700	53	43
Sumpter	3000	3300	37	30
Desolation	2750	3400	40	13

*Calves per 100 cows.

Carrying Capacity

We do not know the Wallowa-Whitman's carrying capacity for elk because the connection between elk numbers and habitat is still vague. The objectives as set by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in the Wallowa-Whitman planning area have all been met or exceeded in every alternative. The Sled Springs unit, which is 75 percent privately owned, has exceeded the ODFW objective by 30 percent. The carrying capacity of the Blue Mountains for elk is unknown but limits have still not been reached. U.S. Forest Service current management and harvest intensities carried out on private lands seems to be working well, so there is no need to reduce timber harvest or forestry practices on Forest Service lands to increase elk numbers. The Forest Service shows several one percent gains or losses in wildlife production over a decade, even three decades. When we are dealing with a mobile population based on rather rough calculations, claiming one percent gain or loss is absurd. Projection out to 3-10 decades is even more ridiculous when carrying capacity has not been determined. Unless or until there is good data indicating that intensive forest management and elk are incompatible, the Forest Plan should not call for reduced harvest levels on the false assumption that elk numbers can be increased.

Cover Forage Interaction

The Forest Service infers that since some cover is good, more cover is better. They seem to forget that elk and deer can survive without cover but they can't survive without forage.

The specific pattern of habitat use is the result of a series of trade-offs among costs and benefits from each of the available types of habitat. The critical factor to the individual is the total net benefit it obtains from all habitat available to it. Cover provides a certain combination of costs and benefits, e.g., low forage availability, high security and low thermoregulatory costs. Either of these combinations may result in similar levels of fitness.

The Preferred Alternative and Management Strategy 3 indicates that "as the stands are reestablished, they soon provide new hiding cover, often of better quality than in the original unmanaged stands." Despite this statement of fact, the Forest Service insists on having trees 10 feet high established in cutting units prior to cutting adjacent units in Management Strategy 3, while in Management Strategy 1 the adjacent reproduction need be 4-1/2 feet high before harvesting other timber. Hence there is no consequent reduction in overall timber availability. Observations have shown that elk at rest are more than adequately hidden by cover which is less than 4-1/2 feet high. Studies in Idaho indicate that elk spend far less time in mature and old-growth forests than their percent of occurrence in the study area. They spend most of their time in early successional stages, except during hunting season, when they retreat to the pole thickets and the more mature timber. There is little convincing evidence that old growth, per se, is necessary particularly in light of Lyon's work in Montana showing how depth of downed material reduces use of a forest as well as use of a clearcut. Hiding cover as it relates to timber management should be no problem for elk in the Blue Mountains since the other constraining factors on timber harvest will limit harvest before cover becomes a factor.

Thermal Cover

Historical evidence of elk on prairies where little or no thermal cover exists also indicates that summer cover is not needed for thermoregulatory processes by this species (Burpee 1907, Koch 1941, Murie 1951). Further, simulations indicate that thermoregulatory costs are probably insignificant for wintering elk (Swift, et al., 1980). The prescription in Management Strategy 3 with respect to summer and winter thermal cover are not supported by data available. The statement made in the proposed plan that, "Stands which are functioning as thermal cover, even though they do not meet the strict definition, will be considered thermal cover in project design," should be a clue to the Forest Service mistreatment of the thermal cover issue.

Elk, as with other cold climate ungulates, seek habitats with microclimates which furnish the greatest comfort with the least expenditure of energy. Unlike hiding cover, thermal cover is a vertical phenomena, not a horizontal function as some Forest Service planners would have one think. The statement is made that:

> "Harvest constraints are necessary to allow for maintenance of near optimum cover conditions on big game winter range and selected summer ranges. Without such dispersion constraint, the FORPLAN model would otherwise schedule large blocks to be harvested in three decades, rendering the areas severely deficient in thermal cover."

In many wintering areas cover is provided by open topography and/or relatively low shrubs that screen elk from winds, indicating the need to minimize convective heat losses. Elk select bedding sites on the southeast edges of stands, apparently to maximize solar energy gain and minimize energy loss to wind. Of course large expanses of cover are not necessary for this because they don't use the centers except for escape. Thus, access should be considered the primary concern, especially on winter ranges and high elevation summering areas.

Beal, in 1974, showed that winter bedding sites of elk were selected on the basis of temperature-related comfort needs. Elk selected bedding sites only after lengthy wanderings. To treat thermal cover as if it had to extend over large expanses of forestland acres gives the elk little credit for seeking out proper resting areas since elk thermal cover may be as little as 10 percent of the entire habitat, according to Hugh Black, Director of Wildlife for Region 6. We question why the Forest Plan calls for constraints on timber harvest for elk cover.

Roads

Lack of human access to broad, open areas seems to substitute for escape cover (the value of thermal cover has not been conclusively demonstrated) as shown in the Mt. St. Helens work, in the Red Desert of Wyoming, and at the Hanford site. So it seems that the most feasible approach to maintaining current levels of allowable timber harvest is to work toward cooperative road management schemes.

In Management Strategy 1 the number of open roads is 2.5 miles per square mile, while in Management Strategy 3 open roads are 1.5 miles per square mile. The impact of roads on elk use is based on the amount of road use in a given area, not simply whether roads are open or closed. It has recently been argued that minor amounts of use on open roads have little impact on elk and that temporary or permanent closures on many roads can reduce impact of roads on elk numbers to negligible figures. If need be, an additional one mile of road per square mile of forest could be closed in Management Strategy 1 so that road treatment will be the same in Strategies 1, and 3. Better yet, the Forest could get a handle on road use and its impact on elk to determine which roads to leave open. It is wasteful to sacrifice valuable timber management opportunities because of unwillingness or inability to manage the road system.

Quality of Hunting

If the Wallowa-Whitman Forest planners are trying to come up with a hunter preference for managing resources, they should say so. They state in the proposed plan under wildlife that, "Because of the importance of elk to the recreational hunter and the steady increase of hunters, there is a desire for more animals to hunt." In the same paragraph they also state that "elk are probably present in greater numbers today than at any time in recorded history." Hunter preference and the so-called quality of hunt must be determined by the agency and personnel who establish the hunting season and numbers of animals to be cropped. Quality hunting can be achieved in many ways other than reducing timber harvests and providing large unbroken tracts of unmanaged forest. Quality hunting can be obtained by limited entry, antler size limits on bull elk (3 point or better) or temporary road closures. The available data would indicate that reductions in forestry may not only have no impact on elk, it may be detrimental to them.

Research

The U.S. Forest Service has proposed a research project titled, "Controlled Elk, Deer, Cattle, and Timber Studies on the Starkey Experimental Forest. In this study they will determine, among other things, elk, deer, and livestock response to intensive forest management practices. In addition they will study the elk's reaction to road use. Instead of reducing timber harvest because of questionable data, we should postpone any reductions until after this 10-year project is complete. If the project indicates that intensive timber management and elk habitat, particularly numbers, are at odds with one another, then consideration for a reduction of timber harvest can be made. As stated in the Forest Plan, impacts using Management Strategy 1 will not be felt until the 20th year, so there is ample time to readjust the Plan after the first ten-year planning cycle.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The endangered American peregrine falcon, the threatened northern bald eagle and Mac Farlane's four-o'clock will be treated the same in the Community Stability Alternative as they are in the preferred alternative. It is ironic that Boise Cascade Corporation, a major contributor to the peregrine fund and whose land in Idaho is being used to reintroduce the peregrine falcon is faced with a reduction in timber supply in eastern Oregon under the guise of wildlife enhancement. Their donation to the reintroduction of endangered species probably comes partially from money made on the very area where unnecessary timber reduction is proposed to "enhance wildlife." The endangered species scenario should be better planned and coordinated by the Government nationwide.

Pine Marten

The pine marten is known in the fur trade as American sable. Although the marten is so secretive that it is seldom seen at large, it is relatively easy to trap. One hundred fifty years ago it was fairly common throughout North American coniferous forests as well as in some mixed woods. Today it is found in most of forested Canada and 17 states. In New York and New England, through regulations in taking, the marten has made a major population comeback and is found in mixed forests, logged and burned areas, lean-to's, garbage dumps, and picnic sites. The designation of mature and old-growth forests as habitat requirement is questionable. It would be far less wasteful of timber resources and the pine marten resource if the ODF&W stopped trapping marten. We could then determine just how site specific their habitat preferences are. To dedicate 14,080 acres with 100 percent timber reduction is an unnecessary waste of valuable resources.

To date two Region 6 Forest Plans have treated the pine marten as an indicator species and have handled the species differently in relation to areas set aside. The Wallowa-Whitman dedicated all 160 acres per habitat to 100 percent reduction from full timber yield and the Okanogan uses a 51 percent reduction. According to the Forest Service, the Okanogan treatment seems consistent with the description stages of succession used by the pine marten, namely several timber types in old growth and mature stages.

In the memo addressing minimum management requirements for wildlife, the Forest Service is directed, when providing limiting habitat, to take all opportunities to minimize the total acreage allocated for key vulnerable species. With all the existing wilderness on the Wallowa-Whitman, marten territories should already be well established inside it.

Recent findings in New York state indicate that martens require a home range of six to eight square miles. The Forest Service directive for using three miles between each reproduction area, measured center-to-center of each core, is much too conservative.

We recommend that the U.S. Forest Service take more credit for marten in areas already set aside, space the territories at least six miles apart rather than three, and request that the ODF&W restrict trapping of the species. Until these steps are taken, timber harvest should not be reduced because of this species.

Pileated Woodpecker

This large woodpecker is found throughout the forested portions of the United States. It nests in large trees (18"). In the Forest Service Alternative, 36,600 acres of land suitable for timber production have been set aside with 100 percent reduction in full yield for this species. Since the pileated woodpecker is found nesting in a variety of habitat throughout the United States, it seems a large reduction in harvest for this particular species is wasteful. Much of the habitat for the woodpecker could be taken out of the riparian zones and areas already designated for uses other than timber harvest. My personal experience indicates that the pileated woodpecker nests in 18" diameter, 50-year old cottonwood trees which cannot be construed as old growth, only as large trees.

Conclusion

Although there has been a great deal of discussion with respect to the impact of timber management on old-growth-dependent species, the Wallowa-Whitman DEIS does not adequately support the need to set aside large areas for such animals. The forest products industry should go on record as supporting a set-aside of between 3 percent to 5 percent of forestland outside of wilderness areas for the needs of so-called old-growth-dependent species. Much of this could be in riparian zones or scenic corridors.

A study should be made to determine exactly which species prefer old growth and, at that time, a determination made. It also appears that National Forest wildlife biologists have gained most of their experience on the National Forest and have very little knowledge of the adaptability of these particular species to second-growth management. It would be a good idea for the wildlife biologists to study how so-called old-growth-dependent species (such as the pine marten and pileated woodpecker) have adapted to second-growth areas in other parts of the United States, particularly those that are not impacted by trapping, or where old growth does not commonly occur as it does here in the Pacific Northwest.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you very much.

Now if we can move on to Panel 30, Mark Shankel, Herman Gunnels, Dick Clark, Mike Rozelle, Ervin Hafer and Larry Thompson.

STATEMENT OF MARK SHANKEL

Mr. SHANKEL. Senator, like I guess many of those who have already been here, everything I had written down was probably said at least 150 times.

My name is Mark Shankel. I am a contract log hauler. I live in Union, Oregon.

Some things that have come to mind while I have been listening is one thing I was wondering, if we were drilling oil rather than cutting down logs and hauling them, I wonder if this meeting would even be taking place. They have drilled oil from the north seas to the north slope and in every type of environmental condition you can think of. Nobody has ever stopped it. Oil is not a renewable resource. When it is gone, it is gone.

And what we are doing is logging, replacing and using a renewable resource to better benefit everyone, not only in this local area, but I believe within the United States.

I wonder what exactly people think wilderness area and multiple purpose land use is.

This year alone I have had sightings of a fisher and a pine martin. Both of these animals are on the endangered species list. Both of these were seen within 200 feet of a logging operation.

Animals don't wait for us to create a wilderness area and then they all go, "Well, let's go to the wilderness area, we are going to be safe there."

The wilderness area is all around us, whether we are logging it or not.

I sat on the back of a loader with Randy Williams, watched him call 15 elk right into the back of the loader with a roll of paper towels. Amazing. And the loader was still running.

So this idea that logging and elk and game management do not survive together is a fallacy.

One of my biggest burdens I guess is I wonder what's going to happen when you leave this meeting. I think hopefully we have had some impact on your opinion today.

But when you leave here and go to Washington, even though not near as many of us is getting paid for today like the lady thought we were, we don't have the money to go back there and continue to holler in your ear. Other large interest groups do.

I just witnessed on the evening news where a dairyman got $400,000 for his dairy herd in the Willamette Valley. If you would like to buy my log truck for $400,000, you can have her.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Shankel follows:]

My name is Mark Shankel. I am a Contract log trucker.

I currently have equipment assets of $80,000 to $100,000. My gross revenue is approximatley $30,000 to $80,000 a year. $40,000 of this is returned into the local economy.

I believe it is important to reserve enough wilderness land that the unique beauty of our area is preserved. I also believe that 800,000 acre's plus is enough acreage to more than accomplish this goal.

Multiple use lands which are manage for the recreation forestry sportsman is a far better & more realistic goal.

The economy of North East Oregon cannot support anymore wilderness for the use of out of state and a few select people. 80% of the existing 800,000 acres is currently located in Nort East Oregon.

Wild life does not respect the boundaries of man but live where the eco system will support them with food & shelter. There is currently more wild life perceintage wise living out side wilderness zones in multiple use land.

Mark Shankel

Ernest M. Shankel

log truck owner operator

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF HERMAN GUNNELS

Mr. **Gunnels**. My name is Herman Gunnels.

I'm a contract logger in the La Grande area. And I haven't ever spoken or testified before, so this is new to me.

I employ approximately 50 employees in this valley with a seasonal payroll of $700,000. Payroll taxes and individual insurance amount to $175,000, subcontract trucking and logging amounts to $750,000, employee benefits of $100,000 local expenditures amounted to over $460,000, total local expenditures to over $200,000.

And I believe that we have enough wilderness in Eastern Oregon.

I don't know. I have heard everybody talking before. But when they come after your job, you kind of perk up a little bit and say, "Hey, they are after me now."

I like to hook onto my boat and go to the developed recreation area, go water skiing with my family, take a camper, go to a developed park. I go to Astoria and I go fishing. I go to Catherine Creek State Park, Phillips Reservoir.

But I have to work. I don't have time to take weeks off during the summer and go. So my traveling is on a weekend and very limited. And I have to go to the areas where you get the most enjoyment with the shortest amount of time.

And so that's the reason why I enjoy going to developed recreational areas. So I think multiple use of our forest is by far the best management of our national forest. I think we have enough of them.

Senator **Packwood**. The staff has just asked me to mention that in your testimony you say local expenditures amounted to over $2 million. I think you mean $200,000.

Mr. **Gunnels**. Uh-huh. I wish it was $200 million.

Senator **Packwood**. I can't type either.

STATEMENT OF DICK CLARK, DICK CLARK LOGGING

Mr. **Clark**. Senator Packwood, my name is Dick Clark. I represent Dick Clark Logging.

Senator, if you want to, you can drive to Wallowa, Enterprise, La Grande, Crane Prairie, to Wildcat Creek, across the parched forest lands to Imnaha, Unity, to Billy Meadows, Hat Point. Though I haven't been to all of these places in the past week, I have been to several of them, all across this beautiful land we call ours, you will find hard working, faithful salt of the earth toiling to save our forests for future generations. Saving watersheds, wildlife habitat, timber, forage and recreation.

Yes, Senator, go to the fire lines today, tonight, or in the morning, you will find that loggers, convicts, tree planters, professional fire fighters and foresters shoulder to shoulder in a common cause.

Today some of these people have dropped their fire tools and are in the room in this town fighting another battle that shouldn't have to be fought, and we were called off the fire lines to come in and do this.

Please, Senator, allow us to keep working the land. Don't shut us out. We implore you to drop your proposal of more wilderness in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF MIKE ROZELLE

Mr. ROZELLE. Senator, my name is Mike Rozelle. I am from Canyon, California.

I work as an electrician down there, where I can find work. And I live simply enough that I can take time and do what I really like to do best, which is visit big wilderness areas.

I represent today a group called Earth First, which is a radical environmental organization.

When we look at the Hells Canyon area, what we see is the potential for a 1.6 million acre wilderness which we would like to call the Nez Perce Wilderness. Our proposal will be submitted in writing. I don't think I will read the whole thing today.

But why do we make this radical, extreme and totally unreasonable proposal? First, for the land. Areas like this are very rare on this entire planet any more. What we have been able to do with our technology and power has reduced everything from a tropical rain forest to the once wild west and little bits and pieces.

That's the way we view Senate Bill 1803 right now. There is a lot left in there and if we put them together from the Eagle Cap all the way to Hells Canyon, if we take the dam out of there, take the silt out to the farms, let them use it, we make those wild and scenic rivers connected, we have got something you won't find too many places on earth. A lot of people don't see why that's important.

If you don't have big wilderness, you don't have real wilderness.

This Hells Canyon country has managed itself for thousands of years, with fire, beetle, blow down, a place for every animal and fish and plant, and for man, too. That's stability. That's sustained yield. That's real. This land has power. And you can learn from it. We can learn from it.

If you run money and machines all over it, you can make that power into something different. You give that power to those who make the laws, to those who will say you have no right to be here unless you have a job, to those who say that money comes first. Without free land, you don't have free people.

That's our second reason for this proposal. It's the people.

We mean for our proposal to challenge the economy.

I know what a job means. I know what it's like not to have that money and wonder there the food is coming from. And I know people in this economy need jobs to live.

But I also know that this economy, the whole world economy is destroying the planet. It's the same everywhere I go.

The jobs keep the power system going. That money keeps the government.

The wilderness doesn't keep the government going.

It's that money. The bankers, it keeps the rich guys in business.

I am not going to tell you I have the answers to how to keep the healthy economy there by selling scenery to tourists or whatever, but I know this, the economy can't leave some big parts of the earth the way they were created, then it will take you down, too.

Why do people trust the economy? I don't know.

They will sell your land, they will sell your resources, they will sell your grandmother to the Japanese if the price was right.

So the people I'm talking to are the ones who want to see their descendants on this land a century or 500 or a thousand years from now, not use it all up.

Thank you, Senator.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF ERVIN HAFER, PRESIDENT, HAFER LOGGING

Mr. **Hafer**. Senator Packwood, I am Ervin Hafer, President of Hafer Logging in La Grande, Oregon.

I am very much opposed to your wilderness bill. I feel that we already have plenty of wilderness in Eastern Oregon.

I have been in the logging business for 26 years now. My company employs 50 full-time employees, 10 to 15 independent truckers. Our net annual payroll exceeds a million dollars a year.

If this wilderness bill passes, our company will surely be affected, and we will certainly not be the only ones. This bill is unnecessary and will do nothing but harm our local economy.

I feel that we should spend our time, effort and money promoting developed recreation. We all can benefit from it and enjoy it.

Wilderness areas are discriminatory. The reason I say this, you know, I testified against Wenaha Tucannon Wilderness Bill a few years ago.

Well, it's been a wilderness for several years now and we log right out near this wilderness area, drive right past the trail head every day. I observe all the vehicles that's parked there. Maybe one or two a week I see at the main trail head going into this wilderness area.

When I go to Phillips Reservoir for a weekend of water skiing or something, I can hardly get my boat in the water.

That's where the people are spending their money. It's not out there in this wilderness thing. I see these things all the time.

And another thing I would like to talk about, I was born and raised right near the Wenaha Tucannon Wilderness Area on a ranch. It was a homestead ranch, about 1900.

We hear all these stories about the vast deer and elk and all these things.

My grandfather said when they homesteaded there, that there was two years before they ever seen a deer. This was in the middle of the Wenaha Tucannon Game Management Area that's so highly recognized for elk population and stuff.

My father was born in 1913. He was 18 years old before he seen an elk there, if we want to get some history down here.

And I was born in 1940, and as a kid going to school, we have snow dirt roads, the snow plows didn't produce them, it was just like living in a wilderness. We had maybe 10 or 12 elk that would come into our hay fields during the winter.

They logged the areas in the '50's, early '50's, and today I can go over on a Christmas day and stand on the front porch of the ranch house and take pictures of a hundred head of elk and also go out and feed the cows and there will be more elk.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF LARRY THOMPSON

Mr. THOMPSON. Senator Packwood, my name is Larry Thompson. I'm an independent log trucker. I am against adding any more land to the wilderness area at this time.

We need to protect our environment, but to over-protect it to the extent of losing millions of board feet of timber to tussock moth, pine beetle, other insects, is unwise.

The environmental agency has prevented spraying of these bugs and so they eat up a lot of timber that it's going to take 150 years probably to get back. We have lost countless acres of productive forest and timber land.

And to put another 300,000 aces of Eastern Oregon timber land into the wilderness, that will only be used by a small minority, is unthinkable.

We must utilize our resources to the best of our ability, not waste them.

Our livelihood in Northeastern Oregon is the lumber industry. That is all we have. We already have 719,265 acres of wilderness in Northeastern Oregon. Let's learn to manage it before we add more.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you, sir.

Now let's move on to Panel 31, if we might. Paul Morehead, Merlin Lovell, Cassandra Botts, Brian Carper, David Salmon, Sid Johnson.

Go right ahead.

STATEMENT OF BRIAN CARPER, PRESIDENT, PEOPLE FIRST

Mr. CARPER. Senator Packwood, my name is Brian Carper. I am here to represent the 400 members of People First.

As we sit here today and debate the wilderness issue again, Wallowa County now has 416,596 acres of wilderness, plus 351,122 acres in the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area. Sixty-seven percent of national forest lands in our country are in wilderness or the National Recreation Area. Only 33 percentof national forest land is in multiple use.

It was my understanding and that of a lot of other people that the '84 Oregon Wilderness Bill would settle this issue for 10 years. Now here we are today. Before the ink's hardly dry on the '84 Wilderness Bill you are back for more.

The rest of my testimony has been pretty well covered by a number of people. Just one deal.

If the people of Wallowa County are left alone to work and pay our taxes like we have for generations, we will continue to be productive tax paying citizens.

If we have any more jobs lost through unneeded wilderness, we will be on welfare, adding to the national debt, which as you can see, in your work the last two or three weeks, is way too high.

You sent me a press release on the $100,000 you got for the NRA road fund and in it you said you wanted to make this a national treasure for everyone to see and enjoy.

Now here we are trying to keep from being locked away from over 90 percent of the population who never use the wilderness because they are too lazy, too sick, too poor or some other reason, that they don't want to walk in there.

Why do we need more and more people locked out of more and more of our national forest? I can't see the use.

I think what we need, instead of wilderness on that NRA, is we need some money to fix up the NRA instead and making it into wilderness, we need to get about 20 million dollars in there and fix the access up so some people can go see it.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Carper follows:]

Senator Mark Hatfield
Testimony on SB 1803 by Brian Carper
August 19, 1986 For Official Record

As we sit here today and debate the wilderness issue AGAIN, Wallowa County now has 416,596 acres of wilderness, plus 351,122 acres in the Hells Canyon National Recreational Area. Sixty-seven percent of National Forest lands in our county are in wilderness or the NRA. Only thirty-three percent of National Forest Land is in multiple use.

It was my understanding that the 1984 Oregon Wilderness bill would settle this issue for ten years, but here we are again. Before the ink is dry on the 1984 bill, you people are back for more.

We are talking about a direct job loss of 80-100 people here. We have already lost 67 million board feet from the allowable cut on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest by wilderness additions and 500 jobs in the last twenty years.

By adding areas to wilderness outside the present NRA (Lake Fork area), we will have a reduction of 5 mmbf; and by capping the harvest on the NRA, we will see another reduction of 6 mmbf. This is another loss of 11 mmbf, or 77 jobs.

The figures that the USFS provided us show all the timber sold out of the NRA for the last ten years. These figures also show who purchased this timber and where it went. Twenty-nine out of the total thirty-three sales were milled in Wallowa County. These Forest Service figures shoot holes in the Preservationists' claim that the timber ooes elsewhere and they show a loss of enough timber to run the Joseph sawmill for four months.

If the people of Wallowa County are left alone to work and pay our taxes, we will continue to be productive, tax-paying citizens. If we have any more job loss through unneeded wilderness, we will be on welfare and adding to the National Debt, which is already too high.

Senator Packwood's office sent me a press release on the road funds for the NRA. In it, he says he wants to make this national treasure available for everyone to see and enjoy. Now here we are fighting to keep it from being locked away from over ninety percent of the populace who never use wilderness because of access problems. Why do we need more and more people locked out of more and more of our National Forest.

The last time you were in Wallowa County, Senator Packwood, you said if your figures were wrong on the annual cut of the NRA, you would drop this bill. Why haven't you done so?

Brian Carper, President
PEOPLE FIRST
P. O. Box 105
Joseph, OR 97846

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF CASSANDRA BOTTS

Ms. BOTTS. My name is Cassandra Botts. I'm a resident of Wallowa County.

I am employed in the wood products industry and my livelihood is at stake with the introduction of this wilderness bill for the Hells Canyon.

The ability of our communities in Wallowa County to survive is based on the economic health of agribusiness and wood products. Recreation and tourism help, but they are certainly not our mainstays.

If this bill is passed, Northeast Oregon will sacrifice 200 to 250 jobs. My job may be one of these. This is a loss that we cannot afford.

Both of you, and Senator Hatfield is not here, have stated that you are interested in economic development and the stability of the communities of Oregon.

I feel that keeping the jobs that presently exist should be our first priority and that encouraging new jobs and development should come after that.

The reduction in timber harvest on the Wallowa Whitman National Forest as a result of this wilderness addition will almost certainly cause the mill to curtail operations or even to close.

For what? There have been several hundred, in fact 339 million board feet of timber removed from the national recreation area to date. Yet this area still qualifies for wilderness consideration.

This proves to me that it is not necessary to inflict economic hardship through wilderness designation which will result in mill foreclosures to maintain environmental values.

Let me remind you that Wallowa County currently has 417,000 acres of wilderness. This is 36.5 percent of all national forest land in the county. This is more than adequate for preserving our heritage for the future, without sacrificing more of our present ability to live here.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PAUL B. MOREHEAD

Mr. MOREHEAD. Senator Packwood, my name is Paul Morehead.

I am a mill worker from Joseph. I am here representing myself and my family. I would like to address my comments primarily to Senator Packwood.

Last January when you were in Wallowa County you told us your goal with Senate Bill 1803 was to get back to the status quo of 1971 when you originally introduced the Hells Canyon Bill of 1971. Your exact words are, "When I put the bill in, I hoped to get back to where the cut was in 1971 which was less than 100,000."

You and the Forest Service have become painfully aware that timber cut in 1971, and well before 1971, was over 17 million board feet annually.

We complained when you introduced the first bill. We are complaining now.

We are concerned about the consequences of what you are doing. Unfortunately you were misled.

The information provided to you by the environmental groups, the Forest Service in 1971 and the information provided to you by the same sources in 1986 has been faulty.

In contrast, the forest industry, county courts and the business community have provided you with good information on the impacts of Hells Canyon and your recent bill.

We want to get back to the status quo also. That status quo is 17 million board feet annually.

I think my job and family welfare is just as important as someone's wilderness experience from Portland, New York or Washington, D.C.

I ask you to drop your bill and support Forest Service harvest levels that supports the status quo.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF MERLIN LOVELL

Mr. LOVELL. Senator Packwood, my name is Merlin Skip Lovell.

I am testifying against your bill, Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill.

I own a 120 acre ranch in Joseph, Oregon, and am familiar with the area and problems that additional wilderness will propose. I am against S.B. 1803 because it will reduce timber harvest, there will be less livestock grazing, it will reduce county revenue for roads and schools, it will reduce firewood due to the one million board feet timber cap, it will waste resources from fire, bug kill and blow down.

These wastes could go to reduce the federal deficit. This is a greater mismanagement of our resources than the mismanagement of the U.S. Forest Service's current management plan for the Hells Canyon Recreation Area.

The Federal government is over 281 billion dollars in debt and the Senator of the Finance Committee sees fit to take more land out of production to satisfy a few special interest groups without just compensation to whom he is taking it from.

This is morally wrong. The cattle, sheep and ranches in the NRA have declined from the very beginning. In step with this, the wildlife has declined also.

Multi-use goes hand in hand with grazing, regulated timber harvest and wildlife.

There is strong evidence that private property and industry has a better wildlife habitat than does the U.S. Forest Service and the Wildlife Federation.

Wilderness is a federally controlled area with no public control. Federal bureaucracy has mismanaged the wilderness they already have, due to the finances they say they have to operate on.

There is no beauty in weed infested fire blown down forest. Saddle Creek, Lookout Mountain, and Mark's Cabin are good examples of this.

I sincerely hope that you will withdraw your wilderness bill to the Hells Canyon area.

While I still have a little time, it looks to me like the issue here is not the present NRA but the additional. The Hells Canyon Bill that you are recommending, very little of it on this map right here even touches the Snake River. All it does is border the present NRA area.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF SID JOHNSON

Mr. JOHNSON. Senator Packwood, I am Sid Johnson. I live in Baker, Oregon.

And I plan on digressing a little bit from my written material. I understand it hasn't been turned in yet but it should be.

I am President of the Baker County Industrial Development Corporation and also I am Chairman of the Board of Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industry.

However, today I'm here on behalf of the Baker County Home Builders Association and I am an officer in the Oregon State Home Builders Association.

Both the local and the statewide home builders and their associated trades are keenly aware of the struggle to survive that has been a part of the Oregon economic picture for the past five years.

As an example, what has happened to the building is in our own company, we built 32 new residences in 1980. Last year, 1985, we built three new houses. So far this year we have had one serious inquiry.

We oppose this additional wilderness plan, particularly at this time. That would mean an annual loss of 180 jobs, loss of enough lumber to build 600 homes a year and deprive the local government body of the timber sale volume to offset basic school and road costs.

Also we feel the mineral inventory of the area is inadequate to lock it up at this time without really knowing what the assays of that land might be.

We feel that the original concept of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area has not been met with the necesary improved roads, visitor information centers and other information facilities. I believe this is part of the mandated part of that bill and so far it has not been fulfilled.

If the proposed additional 300,000 acres of wilderness is passed, even less chance of developing the needed facilities for the general public will become in force.

We ask that you, Senator, to consider the affect on the welfare of all of the Oregon residents when you debate this wilderness proposal.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Johnson follows:]

Baker Co. Homebuilders
Box 955
Baker, Oregon 97814

Aug. 18, 1986

Honorable Senators Mark Hatfield
and Bob Packwood

Re: Proposed additional wilderness to the Hells Canyon National Recreational Area.

Honorable Senators;

The Baker County Home Builders Association is in opposition to the proposed additional wilderness for the following reasons:

1. The Hell's Canyon National Recreational Area Act's main purpose was to provide an unusual natural area for the general public's benefit and use.

To date the necessary roads, trails, etc. that would enable our increasing older population to visit and enjoy this area has not become a reality. Another 300,000 acres of wilderness, prohibiting roads and other development, would be even more limiting the segment of population that can visit and vacation within the canyon area.

We need more and better recreation roads, visitor facilities and destination resorts in strategic locations for all to share in, rather than more restrictions for less to enjoy. I would propose some landmark legislation, instead, to allot a portion or all of the money from timber sales within the National Recreation Area for the purpose of providing these needed improvements. It would, also, be a welcome positive improvement to our local businesses.

2. The reduction of allowable cut from the present seven million board feet to one million board feet will severly impact our already distressed Northeast Oregon economy. This is a major setback. The historic annual timber harvest before tne National Recreation Area came to about 18 million board feet. The loss of six million board feet annually of timber equates to 150 jobs lost in harvesting the logs. It also means a loss of lumber to build six hundred homes each year.

The loss of $150,000, annually, from timber sales of which 25% goes to the County means $37,500 which will no longer be available for basic school support and road fund.

3. The Wallowa Whitman National Forest in in the final planning phase of deciding the next ten to fifteen year operating plan for the forest.

Alternate C, which has been publicly favored by the U.S. Forest Service, significantly impacts the entire Northeast Oregon area by reduction in allowable cut without any consideration of the proposed additional wilderness area. The Alternate C program means a 300 job loss scenario, alone.

Oregon has had a net population gain of only 55,000 people in the last five years. The demographic breakdown of this figure show the gains are in the metropolitan areas, while Eastern Oregon has a net loss. We builders within this area cannot survive in a declining population cycle that need no housing. The net result will be only a few larger builders will survive. The small home builder business and related construction sub-contractors will cease to be. The end result will be fewer services available for the remaining residents within the region or, if you will, the extinction of an endangered species important to Oregon's economy.

In summation of the proposed additional wilderness within the Hell's Canyon National Recreation Area I want to stress that, in addition to the actual land involved, it would bring economic wilderness to many of our small towns and businesses within our area.

Sincerely,

Sid Johnson

Sid Johnson, Past President
Baker Co. Home Builders;
Officer Oregon State Home Builders.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you, sir.

We will move on to Panel 32, Fred VanAtta, Robert McKellar, Frank Felkel, Charles Chase, Joe French, and Gary Foglio.

STATEMENT OF GARY FOGLIO

Mr. FOGLIO. Senator Packwood, my name is Gary Foglio.

I am opposed to Senate Bill 1803.

Oregon is one of the best areas in the world for growing timber. We can grow Douglas fir trees for lumber as fast or faster than anywhere else in the world.

We currently have 35 wilderness areas in Oregon containing 2,078,072 acres. Less than two percent of our State's population hike into these areas. Most people do not know the definition of wilderness area. National recreation areas, campgrounds, botanical areas, geological areas, historical areas, scenic areas are not included in our two plus million acres of designated wilderness.

Man can only be a visitor in the wilderness, no development, no roads, no motor vehicles and no timber harvest.

By the year 2000 the demand for wood products could double. We cannot lock up our renewable resources in more Wilderness Areas.

The timber harvests allowed by the Forest Service and the State are on a sustained yield basis. Conservationists and preservationists like to use pictures of clearcuts to symbolize a past tense resource.

On a sustained yield no more timber is sold for harvest than the amount the forest will produce for an infinite period.

After a timber harvest our land is replanted, just as a farmer replants his crops after a harvest.

Just this past week I was a visitor in the Mapleton Ranger District of the Siuslaw National Forest on three different days.

The first day my son and I observed a herd of elk grazing in a clearcut that had been logged approximately ten years ago.

On or second visit we saw two does and one spike just off a road in a second growth forest.

The third visit showed us a Bobcat and two cow elk with their calves in between a clearcut currently being logged and another section of second growth timber.

My point here is we do not have to lock up more of our valuable renewable resource in wilderness areas to protect our wildlife.

How about the rest of our wildlife? Are we sure they cannot survive in a second growth forest? Let's make our decisions with logic and common sense.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you. Bob?

STATEMENT OF ROBERT H. McKELLAR, PRESIDENT, OREGON FOREST PRODUCTS TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

Mr. McKELLAR. Senator Packwood, my name is Bob McKellar.

I am here representing the forest products truckers of Oregon, of which about 300 of them live in the area affected that we are talking about today.

I know you know quite a bit about forest products truckers because it was your work on the diesel differential that brought

Oregon truckers equity with other truckers throughout the United States.

These are family operations. Sixty-seven percent of them own and operate one truck. Near independent. They are not those ugly corporations that we have been hearing about today. The average trucks are 2.6 trucks per person that owns them here in this area.

I want to share three things with you about how this bill would affect the forest products truckers in this area.

In the first place, it reduces what they have to haul by ten percent. So each of the trucking operations, the forest products trucking operations in this area would reduce their business by ten percent.

And I can tell you that they don't have ten percent to reduce from, at least certainly not ten percent profit to reduce ten percent from.

Now, what they would have to do, their options are when your volume is reduced, is like any other business person, you either move to another area, you change the way you operate or you reduce your maintenance and equipment purchases and anything else you can to get down and operate for that.

Most of these alternatives aren't very palatable.

The second thing I want to share is something that's been mentioned before, and that is where the funds go that come from the harvest of these forests. They go primarily for road repair maintenance and enhancement, and school support in the counties. And the quality of the roadways is essential to our industry.

And when you have poorly maintained trucks, or at least undermaintained trucks and poorly maintained roads, or deteriorating roads, the result is not good.

Truckers nationwide, and Oregon is no exception, have the highest effective tax rate of any industry, approximately 37 percent, and this doesn't help that.

Of the 300 forest products truckers that are affected in this area, it would decrease their spendable income and would reduce the amount that these truckers spend in this area by $2.7 million.

The three counties affected already have 10 to 14 percent unemployment and this would add to that.

And in summary, we are opposed to Senate Bill 1803 in its present form and we support the suggestion that the bill be withdrawn, or in the alternative, that the community stability alternative be adopted.

We believe either one of those two things best suit the forest products truckers in this area.

Thank you very much. We appreciate it.

[The prepared statement of Mr. McKellar follows:]

Oregon Forest Products Transportation Association

2985 River Road South • PO Box 2167 • Salem, Oregon 97308 • (503) 364-5168

SENATE HEARING ON HELL'S CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
TESTIMONY BY ROBERT H. MCKELLAR, PRESIDENT
SENATE BILL 1803
8:00 AM, AUGUST 19, 1986
ZABEL HALL, ROOM 142, EASTERN OREGON STATE COLLEGE

My name is Bob McKellar, President of the Oregon Forest Products Transportation Association, representing forest products truckers in Oregon including approximately 300 forest products truckers who live in Baker, Union, Wallowa and Umatilla counties. The effects of Senate Bill 1803, the Hell's Canyon Wilderness Bill, are varied, and the complexities of the issues involved are too numerous to be covered in the time allotted here, so I want to talk only about the effect SB 1803 would have on forest products truckers who rely on the Wallowa-Whitman Forest for the forest products they transport.

1. Reduced Timber Supply: Since the estimated reduction in the annual timber harvest in the Wallowa-Whitman Forest would be 15 million board feet, at least 10 forest products trucking firms would be eliminated. However, this is not a practical appraisal of the real net effect of this bill. Since the estimated reduction in timber harvested would be 10%, it would be reasonable to assume all forest products truckers in this area would share equally the 10% reduction of forest products available. This represents another bite out of the already shrinking business Oregon forest products truckers need to make a living. Forest products truckers are like any other business person. When your volume is reduced, you have to make it up in another operational area by cutting costs, delaying repairs and maintenance, or moving to other areas.

(continued)

2. Reduced County Receipts and Higher Taxes: A major source of funding for programs in the counties affected by SB 1803 are timber tax receipts. Primary use of these funds are road repair, maintenance and enhancement, and school support. The quality of the roadways is essential to forest product truckers and the general public. It doesn't take an engineer to estimate what happens when under-maintained trucks operate on deteriorating roads. If the counties maintain programs at their current levels, the revenue shortfall will be made up in higher local taxes. Truckers nationwide (Oregon is no exception) have the highest effective tax rate of any industry, approximately 37%.

The impact on the local economy from reduced timber production would be substantial. The 300 forest product truckers affected by the 10% timber reduction called for in SB 1803 would realize a direct decrease in spendable income of approximately $900,000. Assuming a modest spending multiplier of three (3), and reflecting the circulation of income throughout the communities impacted, the result would be a reduction of almost $2.7 million to the local economy. Baker, Union and Wallowa counties are currently experiencing 10-14% unemployment, a figure sure to rise with the passage of SB 1803.

In addition to the effects mentioned earlier, forest products truckers are in danger of losing major tax advantages (investment tax credit, capital gains, etc.) through national tax reform. The situation is critical for forest products truckers here in Oregon, as our fate is being decided by the legislation pending today in Washington, D.C.

3. Amount of Wilderness Area in Oregon: With the addition of the acreage proposed in SB 1803, only 28% of the forest will be designated for multiple use, and 72% will be restricted use areas. The increasing

(continued)

trend in Oregon of establishing designated wilderness and recreation areas is ever increasing. In the near future it is anticipated that over 20% of the state of Oregon will be designated as restricted use wilderness areas. We agree that we need to preserve the beauty of Oregon, but we also realize that the people who make Oregon their home have earned the right to make a living here. SB 1803 threatens the livelihood of forest product workers in Eastern Oregon.

In summary, the Oregon Forest Products Transportation Association is opposed to SB 1803 in its present form and supports the Community Stability Alternative. We feel the Community Stability Alternative preserves the ideals SB 1803 was written to accomplish and preserves the rights of the residents and forest products truckers in Eastern Oregon.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to appear before the Committee on this important issue. We will be pleased to respond to any questions.

RHM/bjs

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you. Joe?

STATEMENT OF JOE FRENCH

Mr. FRENCH. My name is Joe French and I am employed by the Oregon Forest Products Transportation Association.

In 1981 the Forest Service adopted a comprehensive management plan for the 650,000 acre Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

This plan was appealed by 19 community groups and individuals, including the Wallowa County Chamber of Commerce and the people that depend on Hells Canyon for their livlihood.

The Department of Agriculture rendered a final decision on these appeals in 1984. The decision upheld the Forest Service's proposal but promised that the management of Hells Canyon NRA would be reconsidered if adverse economic impact might occur in the counties next to NRA. We believe that it is in the public interest to revise the management plan for the NRA now because of the adverse economic effects in the area.

And a public interest of course is an interest shared by citizens generally, in affairs of local, national and State government. And certainly this affects the local economy and what affects the local economy here, affects the economy of Oregon. And Oregon, being the State, affects the national economy.

Sometimes now I think that we already have wilderness in the entire State, having traveled to California, Arizona, and certainly we don't need any more deterioration of the economy.

So we would ask your help, Senator, in obtaining reconsideration of this Hells Canyon NRA management as proposed by the Forest Service, and this can be done by using the Forest Service plan prepared by the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. And we would ask your help in doing it.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you, Joe.

STATEMENT OF FRANK FELKEL

Mr. FELKEL. My name is Frank Felkel. I am awful fortunate to be here. The fellows here, have already turned in my testimony.

I would like this opportunity to thank everybody for voting me in as President of Northeastern Oregon Truckers Association.

In the trucking industry, now, we run into some funny figures. We come in around here with 40 to a hundred log loads. The logger has to go out and get an eight foot chunk, six inches in diameter, load it up, haul it to the mill.

I happened to be hauling out of Lake Port area, right next to it, where there is two or three million feet or a good many million feet down and dead, and it is going to be ruined if this bill is accepted. It's just perfect timber in its prime.

That's all I have. Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Felkel follows:]

August 19, 1986
Letter of Testimony
Wilderness Hearing'
LaGrande, Oregon

We are not against conservation, but are totally against wilderness areas that promote the ambitions of a few isolationists for their power hungry control of a piece of pie in the sky ideas.

Wilderness areas take away jobs from people, taxes from schools, counties and cities.

The current fires in the wilderness areas are an example of needless waste, not only in useable wood but in clean air, water conservation and animal protection.

The Forest Service adding the Lodge Pole Pine (bug kill), firewood, and windfall to the list of merchantable timber is a false comparison using past statistics to be used in the timber harvest management.

In the Lake Fork area large trees are laying on the ground rotting. It has taken the Forest Service three years to do the paper work for salvage sales. Now they have changed their minds and for a couple more years the timber will be aging and deteriorating and will become totally valueless except to fuel more wildfires and destroy other areas of standing timber.

F.J.F. Logging Co.
By [illegible]
85 Industrial Ave
Baker, Ore

Please include this testimony in official record

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you, sir. Thank you gentlemen.

Now if we can take Ken Holman, Hal Norris, John Ross, Ron Moulton, Kathy Jellum, Pat Goss.

STATEMENT OF KEN HOLMAN

Mr. HOLMAN. My name is Ken Holman. I'm a rancher and a sawmill fabricator from North Powder, for the past 16 years.

I enjoy the outdoors, fishing, hunting, hiking, enjoy the beauty and the splendor of our area.

We in Eastern Oregon live and work here because we seek the less populated, more open acreas and the uncomplicated lifestyles.

Therefore, I feel we should, as inhabitants of this area, be able to obtain a living from the natural renewable resources that the area offers.

I perceive the greater population of Western Oregon and the environmentalists as forcing a tourist and playground industry on an unwilling peoples that are neither interested nor willing to participate in said industry. Eastern Oregon cannot survive on a tourist based industry, the season is too short and the attraction, while big in acreage is small in audience.

A wilderness only caters to a very small percentage of the population, i.e., the young, the healthy, time on their hands few who can afford and are willing to make the effort to utilize the vast land called wilderness.

There are approximatly 830,000 acres of wilderness in Eastern Oregon, not to mention the hundreds of thousands of acres dedicated to roadless, feeding game preserves, and upland game refuges.

I feel it is unwarranted to add more acreage to the above as it deletes from available revenue.

Due to the shorter growing season, less water availability, the amount of harvestable timber in Eastern Oregon is limited and now diminishing due to the present fire situation.

All areas that could be, should be logged as terrain and unfeasibility create numerous small wilderness.

I perceive that the greater Western Oregon population and the environmentalists are forcing a tourist and playground industry on an unwilling people.

Eastern Oregon cannot survive on a tourist based industry. The season is too short. The attraction, while big in acreage, is small in audience.

Eastern Oregon is supporting more than is fair share of unproductive wilderness, roadless and refuse areas. There is approximately 830,000 acres of wilderness, not mentioning preserves, refuses.

To remove still more acreage from the revenue producing industry, it is inconceivable and unwarranted, placing more tax burden on the already overburdened taxpayer.

I am against more wilderness in Eastern Oregon.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you, Mr. Holman.

STATEMENT OF RONALD K. MOULTON

Mr. **Moulton**. Senator Packwood, my name is Ron Moulton. I am an owner-operator of the Tropidara Restaurant and Lounge and President of the Union, Wallowa and Baker County Chapter of the Oregon Restaurants and Beverage Association.

I am opposed to Senate Bill No. 1803 because of the effect it will have on private industry. Not only in Eastern Oregon but in the entire State.

I am here today representing the restaurant and beverage industry. The restaurant and beverage industry of Oregon employs approximately 70,000 employees and is one of the top three employers in the State.

Our industry is dependent upon discretionary dollars, those dollars that are available that are not budgeted for essentials.

If Senate Bill 1803 is passed, jobs with higher salaries which provide more discretionary dollars will diminish. Thus our industry will suffer.

Already Statewide beverage sales are down approximately 25 percent, sales in Union, Wallowa and Baker Counties are down approximately 40 percent and in some cases as much as 50. This decrease in sales is due largely to unemployment and the economy in our area.

Our sales are also reflecting our State laws which affect the cost of our industry doing business.

Unemployment and the economy have diminished the amount of discretionary dollars available in this area. Therefore sales of non-essential items have decreased also.

Eliminating any job which would cut back on discretionary income would hurt the economy even more.

Expanding the wilderness area in Western Oregon would cut back on jobs such as logging, trucking and manufacturing. Traditionally high paying jobs would increase the discretionary income providing more dollars locally for non-essentials which our industry relies upon.

In closing, it is not only the restaurant and beverage industry which rely on discretionary income to increase their sales. By eliminating jobs with traditionally higher wages, we would also be eliminating the need for as many jobs in the service industry, hurting our economy even more.

Thank you.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you, sir.

STATEMENT OF KATHY JELLUM, HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

Ms. **Jellum**. Senator Packwood, my name is Kathy Jellum. I am an owner and operator of a motel in the area. So I am representing the motel industry here in La Grande.

And we are opposed to Senate Bill 1803.

In 1985 a private study over a six month period of time was done by the Parks and Recreation Department of La Grande in connection with Eastern Oregon State College. This study was done to determine the make-up of our motel occupancy. The results were that 83 percent of the people that stayed with us were here for commercial reasons.

Therefore, the motel business here in La Grande is affected greatly when the rest of the business community is affected. When a business has to close its doors or cut back, that means that less sales people are staying here in La Grande.

A monthly compilation by area is done for the lodging industry statewide by Laventhol and Horwath out of Portland. Since January, 1986, until July of 1986, there has been a steady decline in room occupancy in Eastern Oregon.

Last month, July, 1986, the average room occupancy for Eastern Oregon was 57.1 percent as compared to July of 1985 when the occupancy was 62.8 percent. This is a 5.7 percent decline.

The business community certaily has been affected by the logging industry. And all the other businesses related to it.

In my motel I have been quizzing some of my commercial people who I haven't seen for a while as to why I haven't seen them. Their answers have been, "Well, when we call on our customers here, they have to cut back because the business isn't there," so they don't need to order supplies as often. So that means instead of coming here once a week or once a month, they come here every two or three months.

So we are against anything that causes businesses to close or causes a slowdown, and I will go on record as saying that we are also against unwise management of our land.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PAT GOSS

Mr. Goss. Senator, distinguished guests, my name is Pat Goss.

Northeast Oregon currently has 719,000 acres of existing wilderness. Adding another 300,000 acres, which is what Senate Bill 1803 would do, would have a devastating impact on all the Eastern Oregon economy.

The decrease in the amount of harvestable lumber will in effect kill many of the mills in Eastern Oregon which in turn produces a loss of many jobs and high unemployment.

The small communities that make up all of Eastern Oregon cannot provide enough extra jobs to take up those lost in the lumber industry.

In turn, this means that an already shaky economy is stressed to its breaking point. Those who have lost their jobs will be holding onto their life supporting money to be used for absolute necessities and this will trickle down to the business community.

With business already slow, more layoffs are necessary. Businesses will close and one by one will leave the community. A once thriving piece of Heaven slowly turns into a modern day ghost town.

Senate Bill 1803 will have a negative impact on the recreational aspects of Eastern Oregon. As a recreation related businessman dealing directly with ATV's, snowmobiles and motorcycles, the possibilities of more wilderness being added anywhere in Eastern Oregon is a very sobering thought.

As more and more wilderness is added, there is less and less recreational areas for vehicles such as ATV's, snowmobiles and motorcycles.

As this is my livelihood, you can certainly see the negative aspect this would have not only on me but all recreational dealers in Eastern Oregon.

Just three years ago the Comprehensive Plan was implemented by the Forest Service. This is too short of a time to compile accurate results relating to the timber management plan and harvest.

Senate Bill 1803 would kill the Comprehensive Plan before it has a true chance to be tested.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you very much.

Now we will call Morley Madden, Theresa Theabolt, Pat Leonard, George Hall, Don Sands and Mike Nelson.

STATEMENT OF MORLEY MADDEN, OREGON STATE SNOWMOBILE ASSOCIATION

Mr. MADDEN. Thank you, Senator Packwood. I am Morley Madden, representating the Oregon State Snowmobile Association, to which I am the Director at large for Northeast Oregon.

Your proposal to add the Lake Fork Area of Eastern Oregon into wilderness would take away even more riding areas from snowmobilers.

It is devastating to us, as snowmobilers, and as members of the Oregon State Snowmobile Association, to think that anyone would consider closing this area to winter recreation.

The economy of Eastern Oregon is depressed enough during the winter months without the addition of more riding restraints which would have the affect of less snowmobile sales, less revenues for the repair shops, parts departments, and especially, service stations for gas and oil.

The snowmobile association is authorized to spend some $60,000 to purchase new grooming equipment for the Tollgate Snowmobile Club. The used equipment from Tollgate would go to the Halfway Club so they could groom trails such as the Lake Fork Area for better riding.

It is our plan to have a groomed trail from Medical Springs out of Baker, through to Joseph and Enterprise, so that many riders from Baker and Union Counties can ride this trail as a two-day snowmobile trip, going and returning through Halfway.

Gentlemen, these riders will be expending monies which will be additional revenues to all of these communities during otherwise very slow winter months.

It is our feeling that the local U.S. Forest Service Districts are doing an outstanding job in managing our forests, for the benefit of all, and does not need interference from outside interests.

For your information, I have compiled some figures to show what the winter sport of snowmobiling means to the economy of Eastern Oregon. These figures are taken from the Department of Motor Vehicle registration files in Oregon, for Baker, Union, Umatilla and Wallowa County, and in these four counties we have 3,436 machines. Average cost of these snowmobiles run around $3,000, which four county potential sales are $10,308,000. Low average repairs per machine is $40. All you have to do is blow a belt to spend that much. Total repairs per year for these machines would be

$137,440. The average mileage per machine per winter is 1,500 miles. 1,500 miles, that means with 3,436 machines, 5,154,000 miles, divide that by 15 miles per gallon, it would be 322,125 gallons of gasoline, average price of a dollar a gallon, if you can get it that cheap, is $322,125.

So the money spent important for winter riding, gasoline, is almost a half a million dollars, $459,565.

Potential riders for Lake——

Senator **Packwood**. That's all we have time for. The entire statement will be in the record. I appreciate it. It's very good testimony. Fifteen hundred miles per average in the winter?

Mr. **Madden**. Right. A lot of them do a lot more than that. I think this is a low average.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Madden follows:]

August 19, 1986

To: Senators Packwood and Hatfield

Your proposal to add the Lake Fork Area of Eastern Oregon into wilderness would take away even more riding areas from snowmobilers.

It is devastating to us, as snowmobilers, and as members of the Oregon State Snowmobile Association, to think that anyone would consider closing this area to winter recreation.

The economy of Eastern Oregon is depressed enough during the winter months without the addition of more riding restrictions, which would have the effect of less snowmobile sales, less revenue for the repair shops, parts departments, and especially, service stations for gas and oil.

The snowmobile association has authorized the spending of some $60,000.00 to purchase new grooming equipment for the Tollgate Snowmobile Club. The used equipment from Tollgate would go to the Halfway Club so they could groom trails such as the Lake Fork Area for better riding.

It is our plan to have a groomed trail from Medical Springs out of Baker, through to Joseph and Enterprise, so that many riders from Baker and Union Counties can ride this trail as a two-day snowmobile trip going and returning through Halfway.

Gentlemen, these riders will be expending monies which will mean additional revenues to all these communities during the otherwise very slow winter months.

It is our feeling that the local U.S. Forest Service Districts are doing an outstanding job in managing our forests, for the benefit of all, and does not need interference from outside interests.

For your information, I have compiled some figures to show what the winter sport of snowmobiling means to the economy of Eastern Oregon.

Taken from D.M.V. Registration files, Salem, Oregon

No. of machines in 4 Counties

Baker County	659
Umatilla County	1,467
Union County	1,123
Wallowa County	187
Snowmobiles	3,436

Average cost of a snowmobile $3,000.00
Four County potential sales were $10,308,000.00

Low average repairs per machine $40.00
Total repairs per year $137,440.00

Average mileage per machine per winter 1,500
Miles per winter 1500 x 3,436 = 5,154,000 miles
Average gas mileage - 16 miles per gallon
Gas consumed per season estimate - 322,125 gallons
Average price per gallon, $1.00 - $322,125.00

Money spent for winter riding:

Gasoline	$322,125.00
Repairs	137,440.00
Total expenses not counting snowmobile	$459,565.00.

Potential riders for Lake Fork country. Fringe towns of the area with potential riders from each town:

Halfway	58 riders
Oxbow	29 "
Richland	21 "
Baker 25% of town machines	109 "
Sumpter 10% of town machines	10 "
Elgin 50% of town machines	95 "
Imbler 50% of town machines	20 "
LaGrande 50% of town machines	275 "
Enterprise	62 "
Imnaha	8 "
Joseph	52 "
Lostine	22 "
Wallowa	43 "
Total riders	804 per winter

Low estimated repairs $40.00 per machine x 804=	$32,160.00
Estimated cost for gasoline	12,060.00
Total expenditures	$44,220.00

The estimates $3,000.00 per machine for riders for this area would total $2,412,000.00.

With these figures, I haven't taken into consideration the thousands of dollars spent on snowmobile clothes and paraphenalia, or the many meals bought in local restaurants, or nights spent in local motels.

With the statement and figures which I have presented, and, by the many other statements presented to you by the work forces and businesses of Eastern Oregon, I feel that if you gentlemen have any conscience or feelings for the welfare of these people, many of whom have help elect you to your present position, I feel sure you will abstain from pursuing your thoughts of making a wilderness of the Lake Fork area or any other area of Eastern Oregon.

Respectfully submitted by:
Morley P. Madden
Morley P. Madden
Director at Large
Oregon State Snowmobile Association
Northeastern Oregon

Senator PACKWOOD. Next please.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE L. HALL

Mr. HALL. Senator Packwood, my name is George Hall. I am an independent businessman from Pendleton, Oregon.

I would like to come out and make my testimony as of record against the allocation of the NRA and to wilderness. The allocation of the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area will create more negative affects on Northeastern Oregon economy.

There apparently has been little concern given to all of the uses that our national forests receive and what our forest's primary purpose is, specifically in Northeast Oregon.

During past legislation, specifically the Oregon Wilderness Act, it was shown that the people who use our national forests, a small percentage, it has been mentioned before, about 10 percent of the total people that use our public lands, are using wilderness areas. So the primary use of our public lands needs some type of access, motorized equipment. Fire wood gathering, RV use, such as snowmobiles, trailer houses, all terrain vehicles, or the use of other mechanized equipment, such as portable winches or game carts during hunting season.

With restricting the use of our forests, we continue to push people away from our area and reduce the opportunity for recreation and those dollars to pass through our local communities.

We urge you, Senator Packwood, to reconsider your proposed legislation. We want our public lands to be there for our children so they may enjoy them as we have. By building fences around these lands, it is restricting too many people. It has too much of a negative impact and eliminates the opportunities to manage what we do have left.

May I suggest that we keep our forest manageable as opposed to building a fence around them.

And I want to thank you for an opportunity to speak before you today and I wish you well in a difficult task, and hope that you and your colleagues do the responsible thing and allow our forests to remain as they are.

STATEMENT OF DON SANDS, UNION COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mr. SANDS. Senator Packwood, I am Don Sands.

I am Manager of Valley Chemical Company. I am also Chairman of the Land and Natural Resources Task Force from La Grande Union County Chamber of Commerce.

I'm searching my mind today for words that might impact your thinking, since you have had so many that have said it in so many ways.

I must approach this bill and ask for your withdrawal. This additional 300,000 acres is laminated on top of the ten-year forest plan that we worked hard with and hopefully can arrive at a stable level of forest harvest.

To take another five to ten million out of the forest harvest for this area is putting us in a very desperate place.

I am struggling with a lot of people who have been in this room today to look for innovating management and industry to balance our employment in this community. We need the income from this block of ground in a multi-use concept to continue our efforts to keep this community stable and maintained.

With 40 percent of the Wallowa Whitman already withdrawn from the full management process, I ask you that you not include any more acres into a wilderness situation.

I must oppose any change in the designation of land or rivers in Northeast Oregon and Wallowa Whitman Forest from the current status as would Senate Bill 1803.

This is a very difficult time for Northeast Oregon. We are working hard. We need your help. We need development dollars. We don't need to take away from our income.

Thank you, Senator.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Sands follows:]

SUBJECT; Hearing 8-19-86, La Grande, Oregon

Senate Bill- 1803 - Senitors Hatfield and Packwood

From: Don Sands- Mgr. Valley Chemical Company
Chairman- Land and Natural Resource Task Force-of La Grande
Union County Chamber of Commerce

STATEMENT:

I oppose Senate Bill 1803 that will include about 300,000 acres of N.R.A. and adjacent ground into the Hells Canyon Wilderness and designate for inclusion an additional part of the Snake River into the Wild and Scenic River act.

Point 1. The 10 year national forest planning process is just now being completed. The plan favored by the U.S. Forest Service for the Wallowa Whitman forest is plan "C" that will reduce harvest by 30 to 50, million board feet if enacted.

A. Senate bill 1803 is an attempt to override that plan before the forest plan can be done.

B. The bill will also reduce the harvest on the Wallowa Whitman land by an additional 5 to 10 million board feet.

Point 2. The economy of Northeast Oregon is already suffering extreem recession due to a lagging agricultural and lumber economy. Due to our heavy dependance on these two areas, we have already endured heavy job loss and reduction in community stability.

A. The loss of timber harvest generated by this"bill" will add greatly to our depression.

B. With some 40% of the Wallowa Whitman Forest already withdrawn from multipal use and harvest, by wilderness and other factors, The Northeastern Oregon area can stand no more reductions in timber harvest.

I oppose any change in the designation of any land or rivers in Northeast Oregon and the Wallowa Whitman National Forest from their current status as would Senate Bill 1803.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Sands
Don Sands

Please include in permanent Record of hearing-

STATEMENT OF THERESA THEABOLT

Mrs. **Theabolt**. Senator Packwood, someone from Enterprise jokingly told me to tell you now that it's over, you can have it.

I am Theresa Theabolt. My husband and I live in Enterprise. We have a family we want to raise here. Everything we own is invested in Wallowa County.

In the past few years we have seen a lot of our good friends and customers leave Wallowa County.

The major reason for leaving is that they cannot make a living there.

Fortunately our business has been a good investment. We work long, hard hours, just as everyone does in Wallowa County, to survive economically. However, We feel our position is vulnerable and on unsteady ground.

Introduction of the Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill 1803 will threaten our income and standard of life.

We sell and service chain saws, motorcycles, ATVs and snowmobiles. The industry and agriculture are the major uses of these vehicles and saws. The U.S. Forest Service and Boise Cascade are good customers and provide income for us through the winter months, directly as well as indirectly through their labor force.

With the introduction of this bill we would suffer from the domino effect. Lost jobs mean lost sales, loss in the quality of our children's education.

The loss in tax revenue ultimately is paid for by everyone.

In such a fragile economy this bill is deadly to us.

The loss of our business to this community would be difficult on the residents. In such a remote area, travel to get machines serviced and purchase parts would be an added expense as well as a great inconvenience.

We need a good sales volume to keep the support of our major franchises with American Honda Motor Corporation and Yamaha Distributors. With labor cutbacks our sales volumes would definitely drop.

We are victims of the economy. We are working hard, keep ourselves informed of this issue and do what we have to do to inform our law makers of our position. I want to be able to raise my children in a healthy, good way in Wallowa County.

Wallowa County has recently organized a snowmobile club with 80 family memberships. We are also members of Oregon State Snowmobile Association, District 7. This district includes the entire Wallowa Whitman National Forest and represents approximately 1,500 families.

We, the members of these organizations, recognize that wilderness areas are important. However, we have enough land set aside in wilderness to preserve the original intent of this bill.

As an organization we flat out oppose any more wilderness areas or road closures. We carefully use the territory we ride on and are first to protect it. This is the result of organized sports. Restrictions cause riders to go out and make it more difficult to convince these riders to abide by the laws.

Thank you.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PAT LEONARD

Mr. LEONARD. Senator Packwood, my name is Pat Leonard. And I am an independent retailer from Baker and I am here today to give you some views of the many retailers, independent retailers in our city.

Twenty-five years ago our family of six moved over from the Willamette Valley to Baker. The basic reason for this move was the very reason that we are here today, the Minim Wilderness. We loved it.

The economically sound City of Baker allowed us the opportunity to develop an independent retail store that would support our family and allow us to live in this area.

Twenty-five years later the wilderness is still the same. It's majestic, beautiful and very, very adequate for the people desiring to use it.

However, things are not the same in Baker city. It is no longer possible for a new retail business to open and prosper. In fact many of the old businesses have been forced to close. We have seen more people evacute from Baker in the past year than we have in the previous 24 years.

Why are these people forced to leave? The answer is jobs. There are no jobs, so they leave and business cannot survive.

Recently scores of ranching operations have folded. Quick on their heels were two farm equipment dealers, the sales yard, our meat packing plant, two major department stores, two clothing stores and a major restaurant.

These facts force us to become highly protective of the timber industry jobs that remain.

We are struggling to survive. And what are you offering us? A plan that will add more wilderness that is not needed and will cost us at least 300 jobs.

Senator, you either do not understand our economic problem or you just flat don't care.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JAMES A. MATTES, GRANDE RONDE HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. MATTES. Senator Packwood, my name is Jim Mattes. I am the hospital administrator of Grande Ronde Hospital in La Grande.

I would like to depart from the written testimony that I had planned to read and capsulize a couple of paragraphs out of there and in addition to that supplement my comments with a couple of personal experiences with the wilderness.

The bulk of my testimony deals with the economy of La Grande. We have heard about Union County and the whole region. We have heard a lot of testimony about that already.

With regard to Grande Ronde Hospital, I would like to bring to your attention, which I am sure you are well aware of, hospitals these days, and I would love to discuss hospital funding some other time, but in the case of our own local hospital, our revenues since 1983 are down $2.5 million. We have 34 fewer employees than what we had in 1983.

It is my grave concern that the Hells Canyon Conservation Act of 1985, Senate Bill 1803, will reduce jobs and further compound the economic woes of this region.

No one will dispute the fact that the public lands belong to all citizens, and more people are interested in recreation than ever before, but we must also consider the economies of the local areas most impacted by recreation. If the timber companies estimates of job losses are accurate, the Hells Canyon National Recreation Conservation Act of 1985 can cost Union County hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars. Grande Ronde Hospital alone could lose as much as a quarter million dollars per year in revenue and as many as a dozen jobs.

With regard to my own personal experience, in listening to the testimony today, I doubt there is anyone in this room or who has testified that has been in the wilderness more than myself. It's a personal hobby that I have had for the last 35 years. I have been in the wilderness more than 14 weekends this year alone, hiking more than two hundred miles. I can tell you that the majority of people visiting the wilderness in this area are not tourists but rather local people. It's my feeling that those of us who live here because of the recreational opportunities may lose those opportunities if the economy becomes worse, and certainly I personally would not want that to happen.

In summary, I would ask that you withdraw your bill and certainly hope that the economy can be considered as part of this whole issue.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Mattes follows:]

STATEMENT
OF
JAMES A. MATTES
GRANDE RONDE HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR

TESIMONY
ON
HELLS CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION CONSERVATION ACT OF 1985
SENATE BILL 1803

BEFORE
THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

GIVEN
AT
EASTERN OREGON STATE COLLEGE
LA GRANDE, OREGON
AUGUST 19, 1986
FOR THE OFFICAL RECORD

Honorable Senators Hatfield and Packwood, members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and other interested parties to this hearing--thank you for permitting me to make comment on the Hells Canyon National Recreation Conservation Act of 1985. I am testifying in behalf of the Grande Ronde Hospital, the third largest employer in La Grande, with more than 300 employees, and annual revenues in excess of $12 million dollars.

The economy of Union County and the City of La Grande are suffering badly. As you are well aware, this region is heavily dependent upon timber revenues, both in terms of timber related jobs contributing to our economy, as well as revenue sharing funds distributed to City and County municipalities. The timber industry in this area is already in a slump, with wilderness restrictions, proposed forest use plan limitations, and competition with Canada and the southern states.

Additionally, our economy suffers from significant problems faced by small farmers and their increasingly frequent failures; it suffers from significant cutbacks in federal funding; and it suffers from a lack of diversification within the economy, and the inability to attract new business. As a result, unemployment rates have soared, and many businesses in the area are struggling to remain viable. In the case of the hospital, our gross revenues (adjusted for inflation) are down approximately $2.5 million dollars since 1983, and we have 34 fewer employees. Declining revenues and declining employment are common to most major employers in Union County. We are slipping economically.

It is my grave concern that the Hells Canyon National Recreation Conservation Act of 1985 (Senate Bill 1803) will reduce timber harvest, reduce jobs, and further compound the economic woes of this region. No one would dispute the fact that the public lands belong to all citizens, and more people are interested in recreation than ever before, but we must also consider the economies of the local areas most impacted by recreation. If the timber companies estimates of job losses are accurate, the Hells Canyon National Recreation Conservation Act of 1985 could cost Union County hundreds of jobs and millions of dollars. Grande Ronde Hospital alone could lose as much as a quarter of a million dollars per year in revenue and as many as a dozen jobs, not to mention the increasing hazard to our financial viability.

In summary, Union County's economy must be considered a part of the feasibility analysis of proposed additional wilderness. Accordingly, as a consequence of the anticipated detrimental impact upon our economy, we urge you to not approve Senate Bill 1803.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

STATEMENT OF MICHAEL R. NELSON

Mr. **Nelson**. My name is Michael Nelson. I'm President of the Baker County Chamber of Commerce, Member of the Transient Tax Committee, and Board Member of Baker Y.M.C.A.

Senator Packwood, economically our backs are to the wall. We are very weary and we are tired. For five straight years our community has been on the edge of economic collapse. Our schools are closing, city and county governments are financially struggling, homes and ranch foreclosures are a daily occurrence. There are over 400 houses for sale in Baker. Real estate prices have declined by 40 percent since 1980.

However, Senator, the greatest catastrophe is the constant, and I mean constant, exodus of our greatest asset, and that's our people. Our citizens, your citizens, move to Washington, California, and elsewhere, seeking employment.

Our timber industry, the very life blood of our communities, have suffered economically for five years. Yes, when timber hurts, we hurt.

The people of Eastern Oregon are a proud and resourceful people. During these last five years we have watched the rest of America prosper. And yet we have flirted with economic oblivion. We have asked for little help and we have received little help.

But I am proud to inform you that we now have aggressive industry commissions and Chamber of Commerce committees, helping our local industries and going out and recruiting some new industries, and we are winning a few. We are making a comeback.

Senator Packwood, you are one of us. Your honorable and influential position in Washington is well known from coast to coast. Senator, we need you. We need your leadership ability.

Take a long and serious look at Eastern Oregon and you cannot help but lead us away from this wilderness bill. We cannot embrace more wilderness, as our economy is on the edge.

Don't be the one who pushes us over the cliff. Please reconsider your position and use your integrity to bring more prosperity and jobs to your constituents. Lead us not towards more wilderness as that is a direct loss of jobs. Take a new and aggressive role and lead us toward real prosperity.

Thank you, sir.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you, Mr. Nelson. That will conclude this panel.

We will go on to panel No. 35, which is Bill Hixson, Bart Hoemann, Nate Jacob, Don Waldrop and Joyce Reynolds.

STATEMENT OF NATHAN H. JACOB, OFFICE MANAGER, EAGLE TRUCK & MACHINE CO.

Mr. **Jacob**. My name is Nate Jacob. I am the office manager for Eagle Truck and Machine here in La Grande.

Senator Packwood, I welcome you to La Grande. Congratulate you for sitting through this seven hours of testimony today.

Eagle Truck and Machine Company requests that you either reject or withdraw Senate bill 1803. Enough wilderness is enough. Amendments to the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Bill were passed in 1985. This was to at long last satisfy the appetites of wilderness advocates. We immediately had legal suits imposed forcing delays and countless studies by Forest Service personnel on land use impact issues. We then see the Oregon Wilderness Bill of 1984 add an incredible 945,000 acres to the wilderness designation.

I have listened to Senator Hatfield speak at a luncheon in La Grande in 1984. He told the gathering then he was sure a compromise would be reached on the amount of wilderness to be added in Oregon.

This was not a good settlement for business in the timber industry. But at least it sounded like a start without opposition.

This was a short lived dream. New studies were ordered and new lawsuits initiated to stop timber sales released by the 1984 bill.

Can we then believe that Senator Packwood's Bill 1803 will be the end to this wilderness land seizure? We do not believe so.

You have enough of Oregon land in wilderness. We want to live and have jobs in Northeast Oregon. We are watching a number of industries, railroad, telephone and utility companies reduce their employment levels in this area. We see our area farmers struggling for existence and know many of these individuals are facing bankruptcy.

We must return some level of stable growth to the economy of Northeast Oregon. We cannot do this with additions to the wilderness and reduced timber harvest levels.

We believe that the closure of one sawmill cutting 15 to 20 million board feet of timber would affect out business, Eagle Truck's business, by reducing sales and service on at least two to three chip trailer units, and five to seven new truck units. This equates to nearly one-third of our new truck sales each year and an estimated 10 to 15 percent loss in parts sales and service.

Since 1981 bankruptcies in Union and Wallowa County alone have increased from 2.8 million dollars to 13 million dollars in 1985. 1986 is continuing at slightly below the 13 million figure at this time. Bankruptcies at this level in a small community like Union and Wallowa County are devastating to the local economy and the existence of business like ours.

Many loggers, truckers and farmers are struggling for economic survival. We want to be a profitable business in the La Grande, Oregon, area. To stay in this business location and maintain an acceptable business profit level we must maintain or increase the level of timber harvest in our area.

You should reject this bill and seek new ways to enhance and promote the growth of the timber industry.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Jacob follows:]

Mack
TRUCKS
PARTS & SERVICE

EAGLE TRUCK & MACHINE CO.
P. O. BOX 2706
LA GRANDE, OREGON 97850
PHONE (503) 963-8551

EAGLE SKY CAM

Statement

of

Nathan H. Jacob, Office Manager

Eagle Truck and Machine Company
P.O. Box 2706
La Grande, Oregon 97850

on the

Hells Canyon National Recreation Conservation

Act of 1985

S.B. 1803

before

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Eastern Oregon State College

La Grande, Oregon

August 19, 1986

For the Official Record

Mack TRUCKS
PARTS & SERVICE

EAGLE TRUCK & MACHINE CO.
P. O. BOX 2706
LA GRANDE, OREGON 97850
PHONE (503) 963-8551

EAGLE SKY CAR

TO: Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

REFERENCE: Senator Bob Packwood's Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill (SB 1803)

Eagle Truck and Machine Company, an Oregon Corporation, requests that you reject SB 1803, The Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill. Enough wilderness is enough. Amendments to The Hells Canyon National Recreation Area Bill were passed in 1975. This was to at long last satisfy the appetites of wilderness advocates. We immediately had legal suits imposed forcing delays and countless studies by Forest Service Personnel on land use impact issues. We then see the Oregon Wilderness Bill of 1984 add an incredible 945,000 acres to the wilderness designation.

I listened to Senator Mark Hatfield speak at a luncheon held at Riverside Park in La Grande, Oregon in 1984. He told the gathering then that he was sure a compromise would be reached on the amount of additional wilderness to add in Oregon. He also said that this would untie the roadless area suits and release proposed timber sales being contested. This was not a good settlement for business in the timber industry, but at the least is sounded like a new start without opposition.

This was a short lived dream. The 1984 Oregon Wilderness Bill had hardly passed when new studies were ordered and new law suits initiated to stop timber sales and road building in roadless areas released by the 1984 Oregon Wilderness Bill.

Can we then believe that Senator Packwood's SB 1803 will be the end to this wilderness land seizure? We do not believe so.

You have enough of Oregon land in wilderness. We want to live and have jobs in Northeast Oregon. We are watching a number of industries, railroad, telephone and utility companies reduce their employment levels in this area. We see our area farmers struggling for existence and know many of these individuals are facing bankruptcy.

We must return some level of stable growth to the economy of Northeast Oregon. We cannot do this with additions to the wilderness and reduced timber harvest levels.

We believe that the closure of one sawmill cutting 15 - 20 MMBF of timber would affect our business by reducing sales and service on at least 2 - 3 chip trailer units, 3 - 4 log trailer units and 5 - 7 truck units. This equates to nearly 1/3 of our new truck sales each year and an estimated 10 - 15 percent loss in parts sales and service.

While the impact probably seems small to you, this would eliminate three full time employees from our business on a 10.7 percent reduction.

Since 1981 bankruptcy's in Union and Wallowa county have increased from $2,849,154 in 1981, to $6,016,049 in 1982, $9,791,917 in 1983, $12,354,091 in 1984, $13,069,536 in 1985 and 1986 is progressing at just under the 1985 level.

Needless to say, bankruptcies of this level in a small economic community like Union and Wallowa county are devastating to the local economy and the existence of businesses like ours.

Eagle Truck and Machine Company has experienced a total loss of sales receivable amounting to $90,015.70 since 1981 to bankrupt customers. This averages to $18,000 per year or 1% of total sales per year in bankruptcy alone.

Although our total sales for parts and service has increased in two of the last five years, it is not due to the economy of Northeast Oregon. We have expanded our sales efforts into neighboring states and have diversified our business efforts to capture new market areas away from our local depressed economy.

Although this has been a means of survival for Eagle Truck and Machine Company, it has added a great number of management hardships by decreasing the level of control one has when routined to a small geographic area.

Our business has been depressed in the Northeast Oregon area. Many loggers, truckers, and farmers are struggling for economic survival. We want to be a profitable business in the La Grande Oregon area. To stay in this business location and maintain an acceptable business profit level, we must maintain or increase the level of timber harvest in Northeast Oregon.

Please reject or withdraw your SB 1803 Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill. The business community of Eastern Oregon cannot afford to lose any additional employment.

You should reject this bill and seek new ways to enhance and promote the growth of the timber industry.

Respectively,

Eagle Truck and Machine Company

Allan R. Chase, President

Lyman Baker

Lyman Baker, Secretary

Nathan H. Jacob

Nathan H. Jacob, Office Mgr.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF BART H. HOEMANN, PRESIDENT, PEERLESS TRAILER DIVISION, LEAR SIEGLER

Mr. HOEMANN. Thank you, Senator Packwood, for this opportunity to give our view point.

My name is Bart Hoemann. I am President of the Peerless Trailer Division of Lear Siegler. We are the largest manufacturer of log trailers, chip trailers and other wood paneling devices.

We urge the rejection of this bill, 1803, the Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill.

While we wholeheartedly agree on the need for wilderness areas, we feel more than enough acreage and timber areas have already been set aside since 1975 to satisfy the original intent of original NRA Act.

If this bill were enacted, we would see that the equipment manufacturers that serve the wood products industry would be further hurt. The closure of one sawmill immediately puts 68 chip trailers, 10 to 12 log trailers and three to four flatbeds out of operation.

Using a ten-year cost, this equates to about $400,000 a year in lost parts and equipment sales which equates to work for about five full-time employees.

These figures aren't spectacularly high. But they do add to the woes of the timber industry that we all have suffered for the last six years.

I would like to just speak about our situation. Even though we are in Tualatin, Oregon, we certainly are affected, as everyone else in this part of Oregon has been.

Our sales to the timber industry are down 61 percent. Our hourly and salaried employment has dropped from 265 to 106. Our total payroll, and this is Oregon payroll, has dropped from 4.8 million dollars to 2.1 million dollars.

So we like to and want to get involved every time that we see a further deterioration of these numbers.

As I am sure you are aware, our situation is not unique in this industry. We ask that a moratorium be established for adding additional wilderness area. The timber industry especially in Eastern Oregon can ill afford any more legislation that reduces employment in an already depressed area.

We should be looking for opportunities and actions that can support this vital industry.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF DON WALDROP, PRESIDENT, A&B ENTERPRISES

Mr. WALDROP. Senator Packwood, I will try to make this short. My name is Don Waldrop. I am President of A&B Enterprises of La Grande. We are wholesale distributors of petroleum products to loggers, farmers, commercial accounts and rental outlets. We have 70 plus employees with a annual payroll of around $600,000.

Since about 1983 we have been put in a position where we have had to carry several logging contractors because of financing through the banks. Due to the economy locally, the banks have not been able to loan to these contractors. We have approximately $200,000 in accounts receivable that are over a year old.

If this bill passes, I may find myself in the logging business and not by choice.

This is the point I would like to make. I feel that we do need more developed recreation areas. We need reservoirs on Catherine Creek and on the Grande Ronde. We should promote our land for multiple use and tourism.

Senator, I urge you to withdraw the Senate Bill 1803.

Thank you.

Senator **Packwood**. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF BILL HIXSON, M&H RIGGING

Mr. **Hixson**. My name is Bill Hixson. I have been in business here for 14 years. I was a logger for 25 years before that.

I am opposed to your bill. I suppose you could say I am a red neck. I am probably opposed to any more wilderness anywhere.

But business here is lousy, as you have enough figures to tell. I don't need to give you any more figures to tell you that.

But I think that it's your job to help manage the forest for everybody and not for just a few people.

Any time you put anything into wilderness, you are locking it up for very few people. And I don't think that's the way it ought to be.

I think you should try to remember where you came from when you got elected. You used to live in Oregon. I don't know whether you do any more or not. But I think you should remember that this is where you came from and kind of think about the people in Oregon.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Hixson follows:]

My name is Bill Hixson, and I am an owner of M & H Rigging. My business is directly affected by the timber industry. Because of the depressed timber industry in North East Oregon, our business only employs one, where it used to employ 6. The taxes paid by the missing employees are lost forever. Will the additional wilderness pay the lost income and taxes? I think not!

The industry is going through tough times. Now there is only one logger, where there used to be 8 or 10. Our business has lost 20% of income each year over the last 6 years. The reason for this being available timber cutbacks and poor Forest Service management. Timber is a renewable resource that can be used without abusing the forest.

The small percentage of the population that ever go into the wilderness we have now spends very little money in the communities around the wilderness. The forest needs to be managed for everybody and not locked up for the benefit for a very few.

For these reasons I urge the rejection of Senator Packwood's Hells Canyon Wilderness Bill.

Bill Hixson
1602 Oak
La Grande, OR 97850

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF JOYCE M. REYNOLDS

Ms. REYNOLDS. Senator Packwood, my name is Joyce Reynolds. I have a couple of comments before I give you my testimony here.

I have to admit that I, too, understand the job situation in this county. My husband and I were forced to move from this area four years ago because of the economic situation.

Secondary comment, I have not heard this much discussion of the accessibility issue since I was a student at the University of Oregon, Parks and Recreation Block Program.

But with that, I was born and raised in the heart of the nation's top timber productng area, Lane County, Oregon, home to the Willamette National Forest, the number one forest in timber harvest in 1985.

As a child I watched the Weyerhauser log train make its daily trips to the Weyerhauser Mohawk logging operation.

My husband and many of my relatives have been employed at times by the timber industry. I have lived in several locations in Oregon, including Wallowa County. And I have fished and hunted most of Oregon.

I give you this brief background to inform you that despite my current residence in Portland, I am very familiar with large scale timber operations. I am not opposed to sane, conservative timber harvest. I am opposed to massive reckless liquidation of our resources.

I support Senate Bill 1803 because I believe the Forest Service is not adequately preserving the areas as they are currently designated.

Current liquidation policies are neither sane nor conservative.

Like the Columbia Gorge, Hells Canyon is a national treasure. The historic, scenic, recreational and wildlife values contained in Hells Canyon are irreplaceable.

I support this bill because I don't want to see Hells Canyon go the way of the Columbia Gorge.

Ideally I would like to see this area removed from all Forest Service control.

There has been some suggestions of a National Park Preserve. I think that might be the best idea.

However, I also do not want to see the preserving mechanism argued indefinitely while the resource has been devastated.

Senator, I strongly urge you to complete the preservation of Hells Canyon. There are times when somebody must take a stand and this is one time.

I would like to remind all present to remember this, the love of money is the root of all evil.

Thank you very much.

Senator PACKWOOD. Now if we might conclude with panel No. 36, Jack Young, Tom Partin, Ron Yockim, Leonard Kosture, Dale Stennett, Mark Jacques, and Paul Oester.

STATEMENT OF TOM PARTIN, LOGGING MANAGER, MALHEUR LUMBER CO.

Mr. PARTIN. Senator Packwood, my name is Tom Partin and I am logging manager for Malheur Lumber Company in John Day.

Senator, I know very little about the Hells Canyon area. In fact, I have never visited it. But what I do know, we are in a dog fight for every stick of wood that is being put up for sale by the Forest Service in Eastern Oregon.

Over-bids on federal timber are getting close to the levels of the late 1970's. Some of this over-bid is due to improved markets, but most is directly associated with the shortage of raw material.

Decreases in allowable cuts and changing the species of mix of timber volume being sold on the Wallowa-Whitman Forest is affecting many local and non-local operations in Eastern Oregon.

Ponderosa pine is one timber species which has held its marketability throughout the worst recession conditions. Thus, the ponderosa pine is in high demand as a milling species. While the demand for ponderosa pine has been high, the supply has been reduced on the Wallowa-Whitman Forest due to more wilderness and the forest planning process which decreases the percentage of ponderosa pine being sold.

Milling facilities that relied on the Wallowa-Whitman for their supply of ponderosa pine soon found themselves in a shortage of raw material. The result has been an expansion of traditional operating areas to attain the volume of ponderosa pine needed. I have attached a map on the back of my statement pointing that out.

A total of 79,630,000 board feed has been purchased off the Malheur Forest in the last three years by Boise Cascade, Ellingson Lumber and Harris Pine, all traditional Wallowa-Whitman users up until the last three years.

What we see happening again is a domino effect. The shortage of timber on the Wallowa-Whitman Forest becomes a problem on the Malheur Forest due to the expansion of buying from the mills located to the north and east.

In response, you might question the feasibility of hauling this raw material the extra 100 miles to off-forest milling locations. The seemingly prohibitive haul cost would deter most of this type of activity.

This is not the case since the three companies listed have substantial private timber ownership. These companies, therefore, can bid high prices on timber stumpage out of their normal working areas and mix this expensive material with cheaper free-owned timber and survive on a moderately priced raw material.

Our mill and others in the John Day valley which have relied on timber from the Malheur Forest now find new competitors which are removing considerable amount of timber from our working circle.

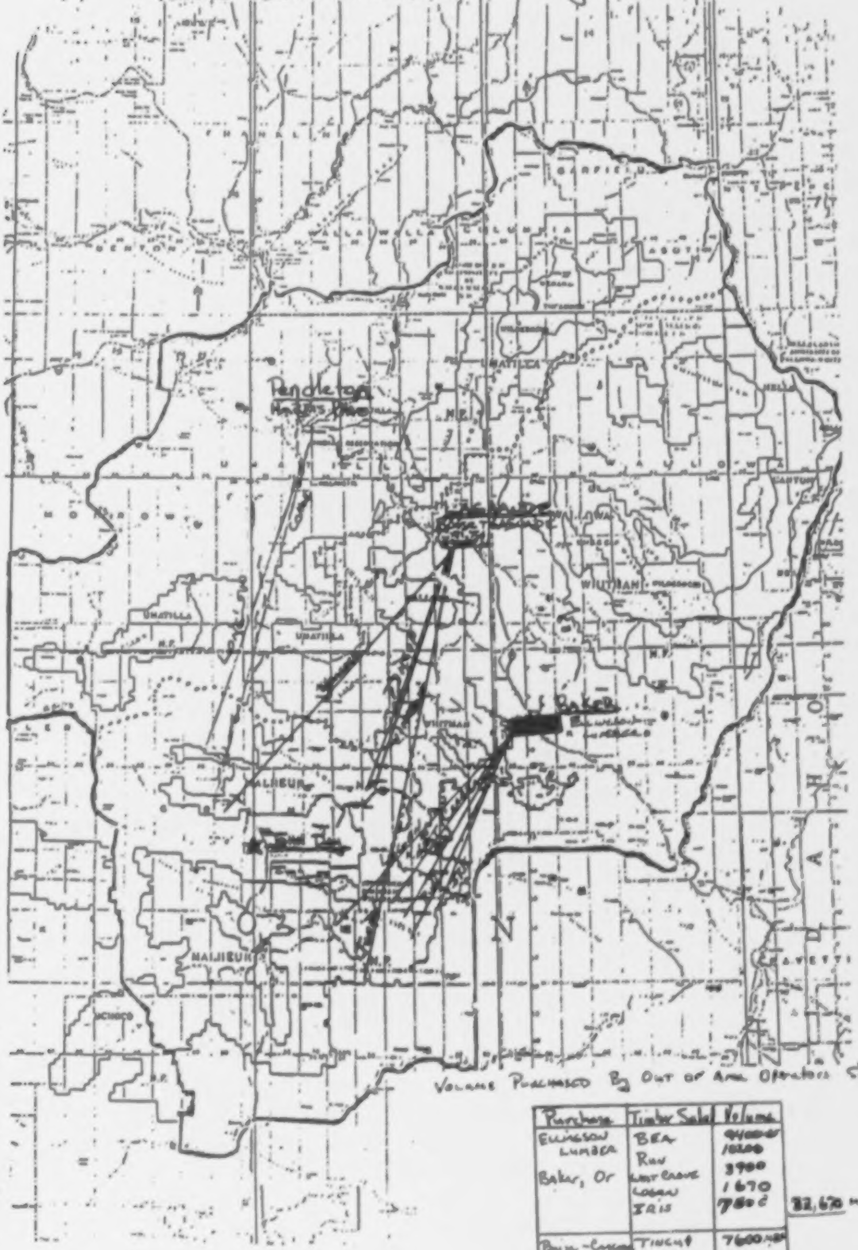
With this explanation, I hope you can see how important it is to our company that timber supplies, no matter where, be maintained.

While we will probably not purchase timber in the proposed Hells Canyon addition, the outcome will be very important to us.

Please don't tie up any more timber in a wilderness status.

[The map follows:]

VOLUME REMOVED FROM MALHEUR FOREST BY OUTSIDE OPERATORS


Pendleton
Harris Pine
Baker
Ellingson Lumber
UMATILLA
UMATILLA
WALLOWA
WHITMAN
WHITMAN
MALHEUR
MALHEUR
N

VOLUME PURCHASED BY OUT OF AREA OPERATORS SINCE 1983

Purchaser	Timber Sale	Volume	
ELLINGSON LUMBER Baker, Or	BEAR RUN WEST GROVE LOGAN IRIS	9100 MBF 10200 3900 1670 7800	32,670 MBF
BOISE-CASCADE LAGRANDE	TINCUP HANCOCK JUNIPER VINCENT	7600 MBF 8700 10600 3860	30,760
HARRIS PINE PENDLETON	COMBS LONG	9000 MBF 7200	16,200
TOTAL	VOLUME		79,630 MBF

STATEMENT OF JACK YOUNG, IRON TRIANGLE LOGGING AND ROAD BUILDING

Mr. YOUNG. Senator Packwood, my name is Jack Young. I own Iron Triangle Logging and Road Building in John Day. I employ 70 to 75 employees and we run a payroll of around a million three a year.

Our people are concerned and I'm concerned of the volume that Tom just spoke of, close to 80 million feet in the last three years has been purchased by sawmills that are primarily Wallowa-Whitman and Umatilla forest users.

The logging is being accomplished by people who normally did the logging in the Wallowa-Whitman which is basically taking jobs away from me and my people.

We are concerned that the misery that's caused by the jobs being lost here is being shared in our country.

I also did a little thinking, as somebody earlier mentioned, everybody gets paid, or the people that were here testifying were all paid employees, I counted the trucks that were in the parade today. There was 106 trucks, local trucks. Those local trucks probably take a Cat and a knot bumper, a log cutter-and-a-half, and for every five trucks that was out there, there was a loader involved and probably one piece of road equipment. And on a daily basis, that much equipment, those people put out of their pocket to demonstrate to you how they felt about this, $1,802,000.

So that's money that come out of the workers' pocket, not money that come out of some big corporation.

I think any further restrictions over here is going to affect us over there and we just can't afford it.

That's all I have.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF DALE STENNETT, LOGGING MANAGER, JOHN DAY LOGGING CO.

Mr. STENNETT. Senator Packwood, I'm Dale Stennett. I am logging manager for John Day Logging Company in John Day, Oregon.

I want to speak first in general terms. Every man, woman and child on the face of this earth depends on the basic resources for the source of their wealth, their livlihood and their very survival.

I think you would agree that not just a rancher in Baker Valley that lives directly off the land but a brain surgeon in New Jersey, a taxicab driver in Chicago, a Senator in Washington, D.C., we all depend on it. We live in an age with expanding population. We have a shrinking land base.

On the one hand we have supermarket parking lots, suburban sprawl. On the other hand, we have a National Park service proposing a big park, B.L.M. finishing up a wilderness study in Oregon, proposing new wilderness area.

I don't believe we can afford to allocate by legislation more land out of production.

Speaking specifically of Hells Canyon, I have visited some of the timber acres there. From the characteristics of timber stands, from the indicator species, associated with them, it is some of the finest timber growing land in Eastern Oregon. Why would I care, living and working 150 miles from Hells Canyon itself?

I think the first reason is I believe in good land stewardship. I believe that we are responsible for God given resources to be used wisely. Not just for the motives of my own company, but for the good of all of America.

And secondly, as these two gentlemen talked about, the dominoe effect, the ripple effect, how it affects us in our local economy.

Thank you.

Senator PACKWOOD. Thank you, sir.

STATMENT OF RONALD YOCKIM, OREGON PINE CO. AND PRAIRIE WOOD PRODUCTS

Mr. YOCKIM. Senator Packwood, thank you for the opportunity to be here today. My name is Ron Yockim.

I am here on behalf of Oregon Pine Company and Prairie Wood Products. Prairie Wood Products employs 130 people and Oregon Pine will employ roughly 40 to 60 employees. The Oregon Pine mill is the old Hudspeth mill that was in John Day that was shut down.

We are gravely concerned over the timber supply in our area. As time harkens, members of this panel have pointed out, we see very adverse impacts in our region resulting from the land use allocations made in the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, including the wilderness allocations.

Between their bill and the administrative withdrawals that we are finding in the proposed forest plan, we anticipate a very serious timber shortage in our area and furthermore we see what I consider a very serious land use planning mess occurring in this whole process.

With the proposed withdrawals for wilderness area, etc., the majority of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest will be unavailable for timber harvest.

Senator, in addition, we cannot afford to look at this bill in isolation. This Act and the planning process must be reviewed simultaneously for their cumulative impacts.

In addition, the question now needs to be asked, whether the wilderness program has achieved its overall goal. Has the alleged benefits and alleged costs in fact occurred. It's been over 20 years now and it is time to review the program now to see if it is meeting its goal.

I suggest we take a long and hard look at whether the wilderness can now be opened up for logging, cattle grazing and other multiple uses without having serious impacts on the wilderness values.

I think it is also time we looked at the associated impacts on the adjacent land, such things as the Clean Air Act impacts land use by Goal 5 of the Oregon State Laws.

Senator, there is another reason I believe that this bill cannot be looked at in isolation. There are over two million wilderness acres in Oregon currently. With your bill proposing 299,000 plus, and there are also 2,300,000 currently being reviewed by the B.L.M., this is a very expensive program.

It's time that we now establish a separate line budget for the wilderness program. We can't afford to keep taking these monies out of the forest programs.

Senator, it is my belief that the compromise of the 1984 Act was all designed to settle these issues, but we continue to see the Forest Service withdrawing lands.

What I am seeing is really a management practices problem. It's not a wilderness problem.

I believe that this bill is designed to solve a management problem. I don't think we need more wilderness. We need to address these management problems.

In summary, let's not classify wilderness lands as wilderness. Let's identify compatible multiple uses, including logging, cattle grazing and other uses. Further, let's establish a separate line budget.

Thank you.

STATEMENT OF PAUL OESTER, SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

Mr. **Oester**. My name is Paul Oester. I am with the Society of American Foresters and I am sitting in for Mark Jacques, who was not able to be here because of the current fire situation.

The Society of American Foresters, with about 20,000 members, is a national organization representing all segments of the forestry profession of the United States, including public and private practitioners, researchers, administrators and educators.

Our objectives are to advance the science, technology, teaching and practice of professional forestry in America, and to use the knowledge and skills of the profession to benefit society. The Blue Mountain Chapter, whom I represent, is a chapter of the national society located in Northeastern Oregon.

For foresters and other resource managers, it is necessary and appropriate to understand the public objectives so professional technology can be applied to meet these objectives.

We reviewed the objectives outlined in Section 7 of Public Law 94-199, the Hells Canyon National Recreation Bill. These are paraphrased for brevity.

1. To maintain free-flowing streams in the NRA,
2. Conservation of scenic, wilderness, cultural, scientific values for the public benefit,
3. Preservation of biologically unique ecosystems in Hells Canyon proper,
4. Protection and maintenance of fish and wildlife habitat,
5. Protection and interpretation of archaeological and paleontological sites,
6. Preservation and restoration of historic sites, and
7. Management, utilization and disposal of natural resources, including timber harvesting, mining and grazing.

To the professional this legislation suggests a balance of resource management with added emphasis on conservation of important recreational, historical, scenic and cultural values.

Therefore, professional managers must interpret and make trade-offs to meet the objectives directed by Congress.

This is not a simple task. Lands and the resources upon them are not stable as envisioned by many, but instead are dynamically changing from year to year. This complex structure of flora and attendant wildlife fishery resource fluctuates from year to year because of natural vegetative succession, climatic changes and a host of other reasons. This changing environment requires flexibility and a well grounded professional understanding of the resources.

The current management plan has been in effect for less than three years. At this point definitive judgments on whether the implementation of the plan achieves Congressional objectives would be very subjective.

For example, measurement of changes in wildlife populations, species composition or habitat, either positive or negative, cannot be made in this short time frame.

Senators, the Blue Mountain Chapter, Society of American Foresters, is willing to use the balanced professional expertise of its membership to provide information that may be helpful in resolving the issues surrounding the current management of the National Recreation Area.

Senator PACKWOOD. That will conclude our hearing today. Let me give a great expression of appreciation to Mr. William Bridges who has been our reporter all day today. He came over from Pendleton and I think has gotten every word down without mistake. Right, Mr. Bridges?

We have heard 153 witnesses. If there is more to be said about this issue, I am not sure what it is. But we covered the gambit.

The record is still open. Senator Hatfield has indicated he will receive statements for two more weeks. You can mail the statements, only one copy is needed, either to his office in Portland, or to the committee in Washington. Either place will get it in the record.

I thank you all very much for your patience, and we are adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 5:10 p.m. the hearing adjourned.]

[COMMITTEE NOTE.—Due to the voluminous nature of materials submitted for the record all additional statements and letters have been retained in subcommittee files.]

○